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THE PALL MALL GAZETTE

No. 7812.—VOL. L. WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 2, 1890. Price One Penny.

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TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

THIS EVENING, at 8, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. Charles Wyndham; Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, S. Valentine, S. Hewson, F. Aubrey, F. Emery, and Wm. Farren. Mesdames F. Poggi, F. Miller, F. Frances, E. Leyshon, and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8.10, "A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS." Doors open at 7.45. N.B.—MATINEE of DAVID GARRICK on SATURDAY NEXT, at 2 o'clock.

GAIETY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, KIV BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Nancy Nolan, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. G. T. Minshull, and Mr. Fred. Storey. Doors open at 7.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(Lessees, A. and S. GATTI. Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Final Time. Mr. Frank Cooper, Messrs. Mariott, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Tom Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James East, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Keeley, Susie James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15. MORNING PERFORMANCE EASTER MONDAY. Doors open 1.30, commence 2.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, CLARISSA (68 h Time), at 7.45, MEADOW SWEET. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. L. E. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, F. Grove, F. Gallaher, and Fred Thorne; Miss Fanny Brough, Misses Mary Collette, C. Owen, L. Rivers, F. Wentworth, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Bannister. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT at 2. EVERY SATURDAY and EASTER MONDAY, at 2.30. MATINEES of MISS TOMBOY TO-DAY (Wednesday), and EASTER TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, April 8 and 9, at 2.30. CLOSED Thursday and Good Friday.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.

TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, HENRY PETTITT and GEORGE R. SIMS' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN. Messrs. Willard, Lionel Rignold, and Wilfred Draycott will appear.—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Bassett Roe, Tyrell Shepherd, George Dalziel, H. Mayeur, E. Webster Lawson; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Hamblyn, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commences 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Fryer) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Management, Mrs. Langtry.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lea, Lamb, Archeister, &c.; Messrs. Cautley, Beauchlerc, Sugden, Everill, Fulton, Brodie, Forbes, Gay, Lewis, Cannage, Lawkins, Grover, Langham, Annesley, Lafayne, Verbe, &c. Doors open 7.30, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. C. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Albert James, T. A. Shale, T. H. Hamilton, Gaston Murray, and Mr. Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY and on EASTER MONDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 3,060.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LEIGH.)

THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 6.30, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Maud Holland, E. Irving, A. Sowton, E. Foland, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, G. Morse, L. Le Hay, Frank St. Wood, and Leverton Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE SATURDAY, April 12, at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 9.15, the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby A. Bouchier, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Goldney, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Telephone, 3,758.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, MISS CINDERELLA. At 9, DR. BILL. Misses George Alexander, Nancunne Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Canvil, Henry Grattan, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Robins, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Laura Graves, Edith Kennard, Lily Young, and Fanny Brough. Doors open at 8. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open 2 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5. Business Manager, Mr. R. D ALBERTSON.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.

"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "ZANETTA," at 10.50. Signorina Resone; Mdlle. Sangalli, Marie, Thorgate, and Vergé, and Signor De Vincenti. Varieties by BRUET and RIVIERE, Maxwell's Bernhardts and the Two Kings, the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, the Arabian Wrestlers, Sherman and Morissy, Mari Lloyd, George English, Mr. Alf Holmes Cook, Lais, and Otto, and Miss ANNIE ALBU. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.

Commence at 7.50. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30 A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. SCOTT LARNDER. Music by M. LEOPOLD WENZEL. Mdlles. Pellatino and Petrina de Sortis, Signor Albertieri and Signorina Malvina Cavalieri, Grand Variety Entertainment. At 11.45, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. SAVILE CLARKE, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.

THE BEST VARIETY COMPANY IN LONDON.—First engagement of Miss Kate Chard, the famous Opera Bouffe Prima-Donna; Albert and Edmund Troupe in their astonishing absurdity; "The Elopement"; James Fawn, comedian; G. H. Macdermott; Ryan and Richfield, Trans-Atlantic artists; Blanche Bell; the Kelliou Troupe of Acrobats; John Le Hay, the famous Ventriloquist; Alonzo Giadina, the charming eccentric; Dora Fielding; Nan Tory, comic; Dora Clifford; George Leyton, comedian; Ara and Zebra, Continental acrobatic wonders; Alice Leamar, serio; and others.

EVENINGS, 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.

CLOSED TO-NIGHT (Wednesday).

TO-MORROW (Thursday), April 3, and every evening (Good Friday excepted) at 8 o'clock precisely (overture at 7.50), a new play, in five acts, entitled A VILLAGE PRIEST, by Sydney Grundy. Suggested by the French play "Le Secret de la Bernoir." Mr. Tree, Mr. Fernandez, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. Allan; Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Norreys, Mrs. Gustan Murray, Mrs. Brooke, and Mrs. Tree. Box-office 10 till 5 (Mr. Loveroot), where seats from 2s. may be booked; also by letter or telegram. Pit circle (unreserved), 2s. 6d.; gallery, 1s.

LYCEUM.—This Theatre will be CLOSED THIS WEEK, REOPENING on EASTER MONDAY NIGHT, April 7, with THE DEAD HEART.—LYCEUM.

TERRY'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. EDWARD TERRY; Manageress Miss GWENNE.—TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and F. Kerr. Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 FOR ONCE. Messrs. Arthur Williams, M. A. Gillard, Helen Leyton; Oscar Adye, A. Ellis, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. MATINEE SATURDAY NEXT, at 2. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.

TERRY'S THEATRE.—MONDAY NEXT, April 7, and following afternoons (except Saturdays), at 2.30, NIXIE, new play in three acts, by Messrs. Horsman Burnett and Stephen Townsend. Mesdmes. Helen Forsyth, Ruth Rutland, Caroline Ewell, Charlotte Morland, Lucy Welling, &c.; Messrs. Lewis Waller, Julian Cross, Walter Russell, William Herbert, &c. Box office now open.

COURT THEATRE. Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH. CLOSED PASSION WEEK. RE-OPEN EASTER MONDAY with AUNT JACK, by RALPH R. LUMLEY at 9.0. Preceded at 8.15 by TO THE RESCUE. Box-office open Saturday, April 5. Telephone 3,801.

NOTICE.—LAST WEEKS of AUNT JACK.

SAVOY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE. THIS and EVERY EVENING at 8.30, the entirely original Comic Opera in Two Acts, entitled THE CONTRABANDISTA, by W. S. GILBERT and ALFRED CELLIER. Doors open at 8. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open daily from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

OPERA COMIQUE.—Lessee, F. J. HARRIS.
Under the Management of H. GUYES LONSDALE.
EVERY EVENING at 8. SATURDAYS at 2.30
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.
SHIEL BARRY, CHARLES ASHFORD, and
VIOLET CAMERON
in their Original Parts. A big success. Crowded houses nightly. Box-office open 10 to 5.
Business Manager, Mr. WILLIAM HOGARTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—SUCCI, who is doing a fast of forty days, and has had no food for nineteen days, holds receptions all day. He is watched day and night by Doctors Fressmen, and Laymen. Admission, One Shilling. Succi has lost 19lb. 10oz. since the start, but his muscular strength is only slightly less.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—THIS DAY.—PROGRAMME at 3 and 8.—ELLAZULA and LUIE, Heroines of the Lofty Wire (60 feet high and 180 feet long); Stubb and Trepp, the Waterbury Troupe; the Vestrali Bayers; Fuller; "Acorie"; Bangbraa and Adline; Dewano, the Man Smasher; Fred Paulero, a Veritable Strong Man; Milroy Cooper, vocalist; Lavender Brothers, Bicycle Irishmen; the Troubadour Quartette; Professor Orton, Phrenologist; M. Servais Le Roy; Zulina, the Queen of Clubs (in the evening) &c. Beckwith's Aquatic Entertainment at 3.30 and 8.30, in the Annexe, &c.

SUNDAY CLOSING VINDICATED.

Is it possible to make people sober by Act of Parliament? The advocates of restrictive legislation say that it is. Their opponents say that it is not. The Welsh Sunday Closing Act was passed in deference to the former view. Last year a Royal Commission was appointed to see whether that view had been borne out by experience. The Report of the Commission is published this morning, and both sides to the controversy will scrutinize it closely as affording the first experimental answer in this country to the question, whether men can be made sober by Act of Parliament.

On the whole the Report of the Commission is decidedly in the affirmative. The Commissioners do, indeed, make qualifications, and we should say from the general tone of their remarks that their prepossessions were against restrictive legislation. But the qualifications do not come to much. The Act has been most successful, they say, "in those parts of Wales where its principle is undoubtedly in harmony with the wishes and feelings of the vast majority of the population;" whereas in "those parts in which it has not been so generally accepted, and where it has been constantly evaded or defied by certain classes of the population, we cannot, on the face of the evidence before us, say that its effect has been salutary in every respect." All this might well, however, have gone without saying. It did not need a Royal Commission to tell us that where an Act is generally approved of, it will be most loyally carried out; whereas it will be "dodged" where it is not generally approved of. The real point of interest is the view taken by the Commissioners of the latter part of the case. "In Cardiff and some of the mining districts the Act cannot," they say, "be said to have diminished intemperance." They say, observe, not that intemperance has increased under the Act, but only that it has not decreased. Do they, then, propose to repeal the Act, or to make it more local in its application? Not at all. The partial failure of the Act is due, according to them, not to its over-stringency, but to its under-efficacy. The Commissioners do not say this in so many words. But it is the whole gist of their recommendations. The exception in favour of "*bonâ fide* travellers" should, they suggest, be greatly narrowed. The keeper of "shebeens" for illicit drinking should be more severely dealt with. The wholesale trade in beer should be controlled; beer-houses of a low class should be shut up; and the privilege of serving "travellers" should be confined to high-class houses. When one considers the prepossessions of the Commissioners of which we have spoken above, the stringency of their recommendations is remarkable. Those under the head of the "travellers'" clause are especially severe. Indeed, they are so "vexatious" that downright Sunday prohibition without any exception at all would surely be better. Any traveller in Wales who took a glass of beer or a "nip" of brandy on Sunday would, under the recommendation of the Commissioners, have to prove henceforth that he did "not remain on licensed premises longer than was reasonably required for the transaction of his ordinary business, or for the purpose of necessary rest, refreshment, or shelter from the weather." The hotelkeeper or publican on his part would have to keep a register of the name and address of every person served on Sunday, which register would be "open at all times to the inspection of the police." It does not appear whether the register is also to state the particulars of the "refreshment" served; though the number of glasses of beer or stiffness of the grog would obviously be an important factor in deciding whether or not the traveller "was actually engaged in travelling for some purpose other than that of obtaining intoxicating liquor." The Commissioners started with prepossessions against the Act. They end with such suggestions as these for increasing its stringency. The result will be accepted as a triumph for the advocates of temperance legislation, and may indeed be taken as settling the question of Sunday Closing. The experience of Wales is the experience of the Colonies, where, by the way, Sunday Closing—with or without the travellers' exception—is nearly universal. It *is* possible to make men sober by Act of Parliament. And one way to do it is by Sunday Closing. The extension of the principle to England, sooner or later either piecemeal or *en bloc*, may be taken for granted. The only question is whether England will not learn another lesson from some of her Colonies, and add Saturday-evening closing to Sunday closing. Meanwhile we hope that temperance reformers will not overlook this further suggestion of the Commissioners:—

The provision of places open on Sunday for the enjoyment of social intercourse and innocent recreation, not incompatible with due attention to the religious duties of that day, would prove in practice as strong an inducement to the formation of temperate habits as the mere closing of public-houses without the provision of any such counter attractions. The young unmarried miner, or the town artisan or labourer—who is employed in a confined space all the week, and has no home but his bedroom, shared, perhaps, with more than one fellow-lodger—has no Sunday resort for society, or even shelter from the weather but the public-house.

This is most true. The churches in Wales are, it is said, very generally empty. Why not utilize them as model public-houses, of the kind described the other day by the Bishop of Chester?

PRIVATE VIEWS IN THE ARTISTS' STUDIOS.

VII.—MR. LUKE FILDES, R.A.

Of all the Academicians' studios in London, commend me (writes our representative) to Mr. Fildes's. An apartment of noble proportions, it is embellished without being over-decorated, a working-room without being untidy, furnished in admirable taste, and, above all, the very type of a comfortable living-room. It is here that Mr. Fildes's work intended for the Academy is now going forward—at least that part of it which is not completed. Our gaze is first riveted on the portrait of a seated lady, whom we can hardly yet call "old," and whose handsome, kindly face and smiling lips have something about them that is curiously lifelike in this fine three-quarter length. Of course, we recognize at once Mrs. Agnew.

MR. LUKE FILDES.
(From a Photograph by Messrs. Elliott and Fry.)

"Yes," says the artist, smiling quietly, "it *is* like her, *very* like. It is for her son." As she sits there, clad in a violet flowered dress with a large transparent lace flounce above, with a table and flowers beside her, in which the scheme of colour is repeated, it seems as if a little ripple of laughter was about to issue from her lips. "And your other portraits, Mr. Fildes?" "Of nobody whose names I ought perhaps to mention." The first is of a lady in black evening dress, seated on a garden seat, with a sort of Gainsborough effect in the background. We now follow the artist into the glass studio, which, as we have already seen, Sir Frederick Leighton has taken for a model, and there we are confronted by two more life-size portraits; but very different are they in subject and motive. In the first is a full-length of a lady of imposing appearance and dignified proportions, dressed in a black silk dinner-costume; while the other is one of those delightful and tender studies of Venetian life with which Mr. Fildes has so often charmed his admirers. It represents a dark-eyed, olive-cheeked beauty, hurrying, with more daintiness than speed, to market, with her large copper pan in her hand. It is possible that a fifth picture, the portrait of a pretty little Italian maiden, will accompany the other works.

VIII.—MR. HAMO THORNYCROFT, R.A.

Mr. Thornycroft's studio is particularly interesting just now, and to see the sculptor at work, attired in a long white smock frock, with his graceful young wife sitting by his side, and her curly-headed boy roaming in and out among the casts and plaster models, or playing under the blossoming almond trees in the garden, is in itself as fair a picture as can be seen on any canvas. The beautiful piece of "diploma work" with which Mr. Thornycroft is still busy is a white marble bas-relief, to be called (as indicated by a rough red-pencil remark at the bottom) "The Mirror." It represents the nude figures of a mother and child. The mother, sitting on what appears to be a heavy, old-world oak chair, leans forward over the sturdy infant playing on her knees and holding up a small hand looking-glass. A tiny Miss Thornycroft, the artist's infant daughter, has "sat" for the baby in what will no doubt be one of the most attractive pieces of sculpture at this year's Academy.

MR. HAMO THORNYCROFT.
(From a Photograph by Mr. Watkins.)

Behind a heavy curtain at one end of the studio, with the southern light playing over it, is the sculptor's latest great piece of work. It is the monument of the brother of the late Lord Stanley of Alderley,

ART NOTES.

AN INDEX OF THE "OLD MASTERS"—

The Royal Academy have just issued their second "General Index to the Catalogues of the Exhibitions of Works by Old Masters and Deceased British Artists, at the Royal Academy, from 1880 to 1889"—a most valuable work for art historians and others. This is the second such index that has been issued, the object of which primarily is, no doubt, to guide the Academy itself in making up its new exhibitions. These indices, which are issued at 1s. 6d. and 2s. respectively, are divided into two portions—the first under the head of Contributors, and the second under the name of Artists.

—AND AN ANALYSIS.

A rough analysis of these indices with respect to one or two particular points will not be without interest. In the twenty years that have passed since the establishment of the "Old Masters" (that were dropped by the British Institution and revived temporarily by the Burlington Fine Arts Club), many of the finest collections in the kingdom have been ransacked, and most masters, ancient and more recently deceased, have been adequately represented. Of the contributors who have responded most liberally to the needs of the exhibitions, I find the following have lent over fifty objects—paintings, drawings, and miniatures.

Duke of Buccleuch ...	395	Duke of Westminster ...	79
The Queen	314	Mr. W. Graham	78
Landseer Family	129	Mr. Anderdon	74
Lord Dudley	129	Mr. Whitehead	64
Duke of Devonshire....	104	Oxford University.....	63
Royal Academy.....	101	Lord Normanton	58
Lord Wemyss.....	55
Mr. Baring	54
Sir J. C. Robinson ...	53
Linnell Family	53
Sir Richard Wallace ...	50

Of the works, in all mediums, by Old Masters the following have been represented by more than fifty examples:—

Vandyck	160	Teniers the Younger...	95
Rubens	119	Cuyp	74
Holbein	110	Claude	69
Raphael	101	Murillo	68
Michael Angelo	55
Jan Steen	52
Titian	52
Van de Velde.....	52
Visscher	52

The "Deceased Masters of the English School" have naturally been more fully represented, the custom of "mortuary exhibitions" held in their honour having often brought together large collections. They are as follows:—

Landseer	580	Etsamen	181
Reynolds	330	Linnell	168
Turner	256	Romney	111
Gainsborough	212	Sassetti	82
Morland	68
Holl	56

The last "Old Masters" is not included in these little calculations.

FORGED DÉTAILLES.

Admirers of the drawings of M. Détaille must be careful how they invest in works from his hand without a proper guarantee. A person named Hartman was run to earth the other day, and his studio was found to be turned into a factory of Détailles, no fewer than twenty being ready for being put into currency.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TATE GIFT.

With a view to enlarging his collection and making it more worthy of acceptance by the nation, by reason of making it fully representative of English art at the latter end of the nineteenth century, Mr. Tate has commissioned Sir Frederick Leighton to paint a picture that will be a typical example of his mature powers. By the addition of this work, to which the President will shortly devote himself, the collection will include almost every English painter of eminence now living.

MR. FORD MADOX BROWN—AT LAST.

For the first time for something over twenty years, Londoners are to enjoy the opportunity of seeing some of the works of the veteran artist, Mr. Ford Madox Brown, the contemporary of the pre-Raphaelites—though somewhat older than them—and the father of that young genius, Oliver Madox Brown. He proposes to exhibit during the month, at the Dowdeswell Gallery, his new "John Kay"—the penultimate mural decoration for the Manchester Town Hall; together with some smaller replicas, in various mediums, of other numbers for the same work—that is to say, in oil, water-colour, and chalk. On the 16th he enters his seventieth year.

THE OUTSIDERS AT THE FORTHCOMING ACADEMY.

There is little doubt that in spite of certain fine efforts by Mr. Gow, Mr. Frank Dicksee, Mr. Crofts, and other members, young and old, of the Royal Academy, the forthcoming exhibition will be more or less an "Outsiders' Show." Mr. Stanhope Forbes, Mr. H. S. Tuke, Mr. Arthur Hacker, Mr. S. J. Solomon, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Collier, Mr. Fiddler, Mr. Henry, Mr. Logsdail, and Mr. Normand are all sending ambitious works. On the other hand Mr. Bramley, Mr. Loudan, Mrs. Stokes, Mr. Britten, Mr. G. Reid, Mr. Wegueliu, Mr. Beadle, and Mr. Brangwyn, among others, will not be represented at all.

THE PARNELL COMMISSION AT THE R.A.

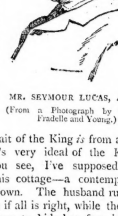
Although Mr. Calderon's much-talked picture of the Commission in Court is not forthcoming this season, the great political event of the year will receive due honour at the hands of the artists. Sir Arthur Clay is sending in a large "Parnell Commission during the Sitting of the Court," while Mr. T. Blake Wirgman is contributing a portrait of Sir James Hannen, and Mr. C. E. Hallé another of Sir Charles Russell.

destined for a country church in Somerset. On the tomb rests in a recumbent position the life-sized figure, in white marble, of him who sleeps beneath. It is guarded by the Angel of Death, sitting at the feet and holding a burnt-out torch, and by the Angel of Immortality sitting at the head, with a wreath of *immortelles* in its hand. The great wings of the angels are spread out, and the cunning hand of the artist has given them the appearance of a soft breeze playing about them, and ruffling here and there a small downy feather.

Turning from the monument, the eye rests on the gigantic plaster figure of Gordon, as he stands in Trafalgar-square, and on the muscular form of the "Mower," which has come back from the Paris Exhibition in a condition so battered and bruised that it seems very evident that mowers, models though they are in all that is required of the agriculturist, are unable to cope with the difficulties of travel.

IX.—MR. SEYMOUR LUCAS, A.R.A.

It is a delight to pass through Mr. Seymour Lucas's new doorway, for it is probably the finest specimen of its kind in London—an admirable example of Queen Anne domestic architecture, which will presumably find its way into some of its owner's pictures before very long. We knock at the door of his splendid oak studio, and are welcomed in by the cheery painter. "Yes, certainly, you may look at it. Do you recognize the subject, eh?" "Louis XI. visiting one of his peasantry, apparently."



MR. SEYMOUR LUCAS, A.R.A. (From a Photograph by Messrs. Fradelle and Young.)

"Right," cries Mr. Lucas, pleased at the vividness with which the story of the picture proclaimed itself; "as told us by Philippe de Commines. There's the old King, see? crafty, and cruel if he chooses, but just now in the best and most genial of humours, as he could be. We are told how the King used to try and make himself popular with people, by dropping in, unasked and unexpected, to breakfast or dine with them, see? and by ingratiating himself with them to undermine the power of his nobles, whom he feared. Just so—yes—the portrait of the King *is* from authorities." "It's highly successful, certainly; one's very ideal of the King." "I'm glad to hear you say so. Here, you see, I've supposed that Louis, in his usual manner, has come in to this cottage—a contemporary building, studied on the spot—and sat himself down. The husband runs to the cauldron, where the dinner is cooking, to see if all is right, while the wife is detained by her little girl—for the child has run to hide her face in her mother's skirts, afraid at the Machiavellian face of the old fox." "Have you been at great trouble in respect to antiquarian search?" "I should think I had—every article of dress has been made and painted from the wonderful contemporary miniatures in a unique illuminated MS. in the British Museum. Even the furniture I've had made from the beautiful drawings indicated in it, and that extraordinary folding chair, there, has been executed from the precious treasure which is so seldom shown even to those readers who ask to see it. The types of the man and his wife, too, I have been very careful about." "And why those vegetables in the corner?" we ask. The painter smiles: he evidently expected the question, and knows he is not to be caught tripping. "It was always the custom in cottages of this class, and even in houses of more pretension, to keep vegetables—onions, a cabbage or two, and so on—in the corner of the kitchen, the usual dining-room. See?"

BREAKING-UP DAY.

YESTERDAY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. BY AN OBSERVER.

THERE was quite a breezy air in the House of Commons at the morning sitting yesterday. Every one was looking forward to getting away for the Easter holidays, and the influence was apparent in the good spirits of members. As soon as the questions were disposed of, Mr. W. H. Smith moved that Supply should have precedence at the evening sitting, and that the twelve o'clock rule should be suspended to-day, and, if necessary, on Wednesday. Mr. Labouchere, backed up by several Liberals below the gangway, protested against the pressure which was being put upon the House to vote large sums of money without discussion. While the member for Northampton and his supporters were speaking, a knot of noisy Tories, sheltering themselves behind the Speaker's chair, kept up a fire of loud interruptions. In time they grew tired of this form of amusement and left the House to the unadulterated pleasure of listening to Mr. Morton, of Peterborough. Mr. Morton is a new member, if not a young man, but he already shows promise of capacity to take a place of the first rank among the bores of the House. He speaks in a deliberate manner, with a sublime disregard for the subtleties of pronunciation usually observed by educated Englishmen. Some of his more daring divergences from the accepted standards were greeted with shouts of laughter from both sides of the House, but the hon. member pursued his remarks unmoved. As luck would have it, Mr. Morton had scarcely concluded his speech before he was called upon in the ordinary course of business to introduce a bill into the House.

The object of this bantling of the Member for Peterborough is to make return tickets on railways available for twelve months. Doubtless a worthy object; but the House would not take it seriously, and Mr. Morton was accompanied by roars of laughter as he solemnly walked up the floor of the House and laid his bill on the table. The House then went into Committee of Supply, and Mr. Labouchere severely criticized the expenditure on Government offices. "The nation owns a lot of good sites, and lets them and the buildings upon them at low rents, but meanwhile it is paying high rents for hired premises." Mr. Cavendish-Bentinck next raised the question of the new buildings by the side of Westminster Hall, and several members joined in his complaint that they were both ugly and useless. Dr. Tanner made some quite serious and useful remarks on the subject of the ventilation of the House, and Mr. Cremer appealed to Mr. Plunket for shrubs and flowers on the members' terrace. "I love to gaze on the works of nature," said the hon. member for Shoreditch. And it seems he is fond of the works of art, too; for he complained that he was not allowed to visit the beautiful pictures in the Buckingham Chamber. On the vote for the new Admiralty buildings, Mr. Shaw Lefevre wished to protest even at the eleventh hour against the patchwork scheme which had been adopted. You are too late, said Mr. Plunket, it is past twelve, and the foundations are already dug. One by one the votes slipped through—tens of thousands of pounds at a time—and at six o'clock the Speaker was recalled. Mr. W. H. Smith rubbed his hands and chuckled. "Capital dodge this to get the work done; keep the boys in till they do it." On the Report stage of the vote for Buckingham Palace Mr. William Redmond urged that the garden of the palace should be thrown open to the public during the Queen's absence, but no one challenged a division, and soon Mr. Chaplin was on his feet moving the second reading of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) (Pleuro-Pneumonia) Bill. Mr. Mundella, on behalf of the Opposition, declined to oppose the bill, but quite shocked the House by the bloodthirsty manner in which he advocated the use of the pole-axe. The last Order of the Day was Mr. Bradlaugh's Criminal Law Amendment Bill. Mr. W. H. Smith wanted to oppose the second reading, but was cowed by the stern manner of the junior Member for Northampton. "You have accepted every clause except one," said Mr. Bradlaugh, "and I have already told you that I am willing to omit in Committee that or anything else you object to." "Very well," said the Leader of the House, and the bill was read a second time. Then amid cheers Mr. Smith moved that the House at its rising do adjourn till April 14th. The motion was accepted *nem. con.* A few scraps of formal business were disposed of, and members dashed off for their holidays.

MR. PROVAND'S SHOP ASSISTANTS BILL.

The bill which Mr. Provand has brought in to amend the law relating to the employment of young persons and women in shops, &c., proposes to limit the employment of all women, of whatever age, and of males under eighteen, in shops, restaurants, public-houses, &c., to seventy-four hours a week, including meal times. The hon. member proposes also to incorporate the inspection Clauses of the Factory and Workshops Act in the bill. The existing Shop Hours Regulation Act, which applies to persons under eighteen years of age, will expire this year, unless renewed.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Russian news published in the *Daily Telegraph* this morning is serious. "The Emperor," says a telegram from a special correspondent at St. Petersburg, "has been suddenly taken ill." If there is any foundation for this message it is of great and ominous importance. Either it means what it says, or it suggests more behind. The illness of the Tzar would be a serious element of disturbance in Europe. But owing to the rigid censorship exercised over all Russian news, the habit has grown up of always reading between the lines, and most people will probably interpret "sudden illness" in the same way that they interpreted the last railway "accident."

It is a curious sign of the morbid sensitiveness of the public mind in Russia, that occurrences which in another country would be mere bubbles on the surface of a passing curiosity are there wont to assume the proportions of anarchy and revolution. Some students at Moscow had a "wine," at which there was more or less noise, and the director said it was a political wine. So he took away the piano, and the students took it back. Then he put up a notice, and they tore it down. Then the director and his beadle tried to overawe them at an illumination of the college windows (the college being a Government building) on the anniversary of emancipating the serfs; whereupon the students tripped up these gentlemen into a snow-drift. They went upstairs and were told to come down; but they replied undauntedly, "You may come up." They also drew up a sort of student's Magna Charta. Some of the dons sent messages of sympathy, others joined in a general swearing match with the students. Then the police came in and arrested the college-full of students. And now all Moscow University is up in arms; the revolution is spreading, and it is clear that the students cannot, and will not, "study calmly while helpless women are being flogged and unoffending Jews treated like felons."

The persistent rumours (which are renewed from several quarters this morning) about the German Emperor's conciliation schemes lend additional importance to a recent utterance by M. Ferry. Speaking at the distribution of the prizes to the children supported by the Alsace-Lorraine Association, M. Jules Ferry said:—

When you have grown up to be men and citizens, in order never to take the wrong road you need only remember and put into practice the double precept I now give you—"Love Alsace like an exiled mother whom you can only see from afar, and whose caresses and kisses you cannot receive, but who lives, and suffers, and waits." You will, from time to time, climb the heights of the Vosges mountains, and contemplate the sacred plains, and you will hear the eternal protestation rising up to the eminence on which you will be standing.

It is a remarkable tribute to the deep impression made by the young German Emperor on his neighbours that so many of them should credit him with a desire to do something towards meeting that "eternal protestation" of which M. Ferry spoke.

It was believed, says the *Morning Post*, in commenting on the increase in the County Council rate announced by Lord Lingen yesterday, that the Council "would be able, if it conducted its affairs with circumspection, to reduce the rates." Whoever believed this must have been a great simpleton. In the first place, there have been the vanishing coal dues to make up for; and, secondly, the tendency of popularly-elected bodies—witness the House of Commons of late years—is always to run up the expenditure. What rational people believed was not that the London County Council would reduce the rates, but that it would lead Parliament to shift the burden of them. The more the rate goes up, the stronger will become the movement towards that end.

As a result of the recent coal strike, the price of coal was put up yesterday "to cover the increase in wages given to the miners." The long-suffering consumer will wonder that this should be so, for the simple reason that the increase in wages to the miners was demanded by the men to give them a share of a prior advance in the price of coal. Are we to have another strike now for more wages to make up for this new increase in price? The action of the coalowners is unjustifiable in the extreme; and, if it proves nothing else, it certainly does show the utter insincerity of the employers in their brief holding out. They have given increased wages with one hand, and with the other have got it back again by a double increase in price.

The Home Secretary made a curious mistake yesterday in answering a question with regard to certain steam laundries at Cardiff. He said that he believed the laundries were subject to the Factory Acts. But the consolidated Factory and Workshop Act of 1878 makes no mention of laundries, and the scope of the Act is expressly limited to places where processes of "manufacture" are carried on—a phrase which certainly seems to exclude laundries. As a matter of fact, laundries are not inspected by her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories, and one of the popular proposals for amending the Factory Acts is that laundries should be brought under control. If Mr. Matthews had not been a lawyer, his mistake would have been a natural one; for the average common-sense man would certainly assume that laundry works would be subject to the same general law as bleaching and dyeing works, for example, and all the other factory industries of the country. The best way in which the Home Secretary can rectify his mistake is by introducing a bill to bring laundries within the scope of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878.

Carlyle (as most people know to their pleasure and many to their cost) could use the lash with great effect. This accomplishment was not, it seems, only a literary one. In the new number of *Igdrasil* there are some interesting stories of "Carlyle at Kircaldy," in which town both he and Edward Irving were at one time teachers of youth. One thing at least the two men had in common—namely, the "everlasting use of the tawse":—

Mr. James Balfour, the late farmer of Milton of Leuchars, near St. Andrews, once told me that when he was a pupil of Carlyle at Kircaldy the discipline was terribly severe. For a first delinquency the lash was given with a chuckling "sweesh" over the palm or round the shoulders of the culprit. But for an aggravated offence the guilty one was made to stand on one of the sides of the fireplace, which then had cheeks, as in a farm-servant's cottage. The delinquent's head was, of course, up the chimney, looking for light through the narrow orifice. If this punishment did not suffice to check the guilty one of his evil ways, a thorough flogging was resorted to. And that was no joke! Mr. Balfour told me that on one occasion the welts of the victim were heard so far in the street, with such an appalling "no mercy and help, that a joiner rushed into the school with his axe, and, hacking this instrument to the irate Carlyle, exclaimed, "Jist doo't ootricht and no mince maiters."

Like others of his tribe, Carlyle was as great at the Bible as at the birch. Here is another excellent story culled from the same source. It refers to a visit paid by Carlyle to the Provost of Kircaldy, "a worthy elder who regularly conducted family worship":—

One morning he asked Carlyle to take the reading and he would offer up the prayer himself afterwards. Carlyle, by accident, opened the Bible at the first chapter of the Book of Job. He began to read this slowly and intelligently, pausing after some clause as if to meditate on the circumstances and take in the whole meaning. On he went, the servants wondering, the Provost "dumfoondert." Yet no one dare interrupt the sage, as his face was getting all aglow. . . . The time passed on, and yet he was only heating to his work. After finishing the whole forty-two chapters, he quietly closed the Bible, and remarked, "That is a marvellous life-like drama, only to be appreciated when read right through."

Carlyle, it is said, used to wonder why the Provost never asked him to read at morning prayers again.

THE REVIEWS FOR APRIL.

THE FORTNIGHTLY.

Not a remarkable *Fortnightly* this. "On Marriage: a Criticism," by Miss Clementina Black, is an attempt to tone down from a point of view practical, but mainly sympathetic, Mrs. Mona Caird's italics. The subject of Mr. Swinburne's usual essay on the English classics less read than quoted, is this month James Shirley; and the general purport of the usual *mélange* of double-barrelled adjectives is that in Shirley's case the public loses little by the neglect. Mr. Oswald Crawfurd describes "The London Stage" as in a transition period, and urges the public to direct its discontent into the channel of rebellion against pervading conventionality. Ibsenism he does not praise, but confesses it to be a hopeful sign of life. Mrs. Lynn Linton, herself an example of the temptation to relapse from the pinnacle of brilliant fiction to the flashy pot-boiler of the reviews, holds forth in a rather forced strain on "Literature Then (it is not quite clear when) and Now." We gather that some interviewer has treated Mrs. Lynn Linton badly. But why, therefore, beat the air by railing at the low literary standard of the penny-a-lining reporter, and by doing so in a passage which itself contains such flowers of classic English (to cull at random) as "all there," "function" (in the sense of ceremony), "not in it," &c., &c.? "The Physique of European Armies," by Mr. M. Gattie, seems to be subtly driving at the establishment of the conscription in England. In "A National Want: a Practical Proposal" the "want" is, seemingly, military criticism; the "proposal," to start a non-party journal, devoted to Imperial defence and Imperial Federation. The Hon. George Curzon works off some bits of "A Diary on the Karun River;" and we have one of Mr. Schloss's "Sweating" articles, and Mdme. de Bury on Idealism in recent French fiction. Of Sir Morell Mackenzie on the College of Surgeons we may have more to say.

THE CONTEMPORARY.

The most important article here is Professor Dicey's on the "Referendum," which we have already discussed. In "King and Minister" the *Contemporary* acknowledges the event of the month by a fancifully written account of a midnight conversation between the Kaiser and Prince Bismarck, as such a conversation could, should, or might have been. "The New Watchwords of Fiction," according to Mr. Hall Caine, are Romanticism and Idealism. They are good, he thinks, for the next twenty years at least. The article is interesting as a protest by the author of "The Deemster" and "The Bondman" against the assumption that Realism is the coming literary method. Realism Mr. Hall Caine defines as the doctrine of the importance of the real facts of life, and Idealism as the doctrine of the superiority of ideal existence over the facts of life. On every side, in every art, music, the drama, painting, and even sculpture, Mr. Caine sees the tendency towards romance. "Not the bare actualities of life 'as it is,' but the glories of life as it might be; not the domination of fact, but of feeling." *A bas Zola!* is his cry. "The Realists are all unbelievers; unbelievers in God, or unbelievers in man, or both. The Idealist must be a believer; a believer in God, a believer in man, and a believer in the divine justice whereon the world is founded."

Of Mr. Samuel Laing's reply to Professor Huxley more anon. The Rev. H. D. Rawnsley discourses of smoke-prevention or smoke-consumption, and justifies his title "Sunlight or Smoke" by this pathetic anecdote. "When did you see the sun last?" he asked a little child opposite him as he journeyed back through the Stygian darkness of a November day from Black Bolton to Manchester. "Last Friday, I think, sir," was the answer. For nearly a week the little child had gone backward and forward to her school-task sunlessly.

The gist of Principal Cave's article on the "Old Testament and the Critics" is that the non-expert parson should pause before popularising the results of German criticism, especially on the origin of the books of the Law. Professor Boyd Dawkins tells us all about the coal finds at Dover—it seems that the Channel is a pond over a coal-field—and suggests alterations in the law about royalties. We have also papers on "Industrial Co-operation" (David F. Schloss), "Rotterdam and Dutch Workers" (Richard Heath), "The Midsummer Night's Dream" (Julia Wedgwood), "The Cretan Question" (W. J. Stillman), and Mr. Digg'e, of the L.S.B., on Fees.

THE "NINETEENTH."

One wild, tempestuous night at a séance in the house of a Russian lady of distinction, near Nice (? Mdme. Blavatsky) Mr. Hamilton Aidé met Mr. Home—the "Sludge" of Robert Browning, the defendant in "Lyon v. Home." There was nothing impressive or esoteric about the sickly young American with fluid conversation. But under his auspices not only raps were rapped and Arctic draughts from ghostland wafted around, but arm-chairs began running about the room, and tables to take wings and aspire ceilingwards in a way which altogether beat both Mr. Aidé and the show sceptic of the evening—Alphonse Karr, "one of the hardest-headed and wittiest" unbelievers in France. "Was I hypnotized?" he now writes to ask. Mr. Herbert Spencer in his second article "On Justice" argues (*inter alia*) that the idea of it, or at least the idea of human justice, contains two elements: the positive element implied by recognition of each man's claims to unimpeded activities and the benefits they bring, and the negative element implied by the consciousness of limits which the presence of others' claims have in consequence set. Finally Mr. Spencer more or less "gives up" the question which so puzzled Socrates, Glaucon, Thrasymachus, and the rest of them in the *Republic*.

J. A. M. Macdonald puts the case for the Eight Hours day largely on the ground of over-competition due to growth of mechanical appliances for production. The same question is dealt with by Mr. Champion in a dialogue between several speakers, one of whom is a sort of Mr. Champion, and leaves the others, of course, almost persuaded to be Christians. J. A. Crowe, discoursing of Continental and English schools, seems rather to depreciate the experiment of carrying on a private painting school in which Mr. Herkomer is following in the steps of Etty. The Hon. Mr. Justice Pinsent, of Newfoundland, gives an account of the various treaties affecting the great French and English fishing dispute, and makes it quite clear that the only fishery originally contemplated in the agreements conceding rights to France was cod-fishing, and not the new lobster industry. "Professor Huxley's Attacks" are described by Michael Flürscheim, writing as a Socialist, as hair-splitting sophistries, the attempt of a clever man fallen behind the times to prove that black is white. Among "Noticeable Books" this month are some reviewed by Mrs. Humphry Ward, Mr. Courthorpe, and Mrs. Lilly. Mr. T. W. Russell writes of "Ireland Then and Now," and other papers are on the English conquest of Java, and Hunting at Gibraltar. The Bismarck article is by Sir Rowland Blennerhassett.

THE NEW REVIEW

"The condensation of the shorter reviews," says Mrs. Lynn Linton in the *Fortnightly*, "is raining literature." Has Mr. Grove been "cutting down" his contributors' "copy"? The result is as bright and brief as usual this time; and people will buy it to see Olive Schreiner's latest allegory and the new Lang-Haggard compost of "sluggiiness." Henry George is down on the Land Purchase Bill as a poor sham, combining any evil there may be in his own heresies with an inadequacy all its own. The young Kaiser will like Emile Ollivier's praise of the Labour Conference, but not his suggestion that it is a following in the steps of Napoleon III. On smoking, Sir Morell Mackenzie concedes that tobacco, used cool and in health, is not rank poison. L. F. Austin, in reviewing "Problems of Greater Britain," affects not to see the difference between reading a book and choosing its author to represent one in a place of public trust. Then we have Stepniak's article, and the Loves of Chateaubriand, and Mr. Osborne Morgan on Disestablishment, and a Bismarck article.

THE PARTY REVIEWS.

The *National* is dull where it is not trivial, but the *Westminster* actually comes out with an article on "the position of Bismarck," written before his resignation! "Since the foregoing pages were written," says a footnote, &c., &c. The other subjects are Colonial Government, the religion of the Semites, the Irish Union, Divorce, and the origin of Right and Wrong. There is more "New Round Table" on Welsh Home Rule. In the *National* There is more "New Round Table" on Welsh Home Rule. In the *National* Mr. Baumann's practical amendments of the Factory Act, Mr. C. Parkinson's suggestion that you can prevent colliery explosions by simply keeping the air as moist as it naturally is in some mines known to be safe, and a prosy statement of the case against "A Shorter Day," are the only things up to date.

IN THE SALE ROOMS.

DRESDEN AND WORCESTER TEA-WARE.—A PORTRAIT OF HARRIET MARTINEAU.—PLANTS FOR THE GARDENS.—JAPANESE CURIOS.—INVESTMENTS.

ENGRAVINGS in the portfolio and miscellaneous collection of pictures with a few miniatures are being sold to-day (Wednesday) in Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's rooms, Leicester-square. Among the engravings are a few prints of "Fish and Fishing" that will interest anglers, views of the Thames, some specimens of Bartolozzi and his pupils, a few miniatures, including Lord Rodney, Lady C. Duncombe, Monk Lewis, Mrs. Siddons, Miss Braham, John Kemble, Shakspeare, and Captain Cook. There are also drawings by H. K. Browne, "Phiz;" some pictures of the Spanish school that once formed a feature of the Havannah Museum. But the item of interest is Sir Thomas Lawrence's portrait of Harriet Martineau.

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Till after the holidays there is little doing at Christie's. To-day they sell a collection of porcelain, some items of decorative furniture, and a few objects of art. These include some fine old clocks both of English and French make, a pair of large silvered bronze figures of Queen Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots, ormolu wall lights, Florentine mosaics, tea and coffee services of French porcelain, and others of Derby, Worcester, and Dresden make, and dinner and dessert services of the same manufacture; a few pieces of Old Nankin, of enamelled Chinese porcelain, a fine service of cut glass, and a few Chelsea figures and groups, and some fair specimens of Worcester.

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Gardeners may find valuable helps at a reasonable price by looking in now and again at Protheroe and Morris's, 67, Cheapside. To-day they sell lilium lancifolium and a large assortment of lilies from Japan, 150 azalea mollis, 150 azalea indica, in flower and bud, rhododendrons, and herbaceous plants. To-morrow they offer 500 double white primulas, 600 geraniums, 500 fuchsias, 800 standard roses, 1,000 laurustinus, and 1,000 laurels.

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Some valuable stocks and shares change hands to-day (Wednesday) at the Mart in Tokenhouse-yard. They include 67 £10 shares in the Law Union Fire and Insurance, 140 fully paid up £10 shares in Sandown Park, 50 fully paid up £5 shares in the Carl Rosa Opera Company (Limited), and a Renter's share at Drury Lane.

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On Thursday Messrs. Bonham, 65, Oxford-street, disperse 480 lots of household furniture, of both the useful and decorative order. And Messrs. Foster, in their gallery, 54, Pall-mall, hold a sale of miscellaneous effects, including several fine table-lamps, Dresden and Nankin jars, and Japanese items; among the latter are a few specimens of fine ivory carvings and some miscellaneous pieces of bronze.

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The Chaloner-Smith collection, in the way of a sale of line engravings and etchings, promises to be the sale of the season. It will extend over a fortnight, beginning on the 14th, and continuing weekday by weekday till the 29th instant. The catalogue contains 2,838 lots. Engravings by all the great schools, English and foreign. A few of the names are:—The Audrans, Baillie, Balechose, Bartolozzi (rare and fine) and also subjects by some of his school; Beauvarlet, Bewick, the Bolswerts, Bromley, Callot, Classens, Goypel, the De Launays, Dietrich, Doo, Dürer, Edelinck, Faithorne, Gaillard, Galle, Golzius, the Heaths, Hogarth, Hollar (several of the rare pieces), Houbraken, Le Bas, Le Vasseur, Mandel, Masson, R. Morghen, the Mullers, Nanteuil, Neffs, Picart, Pye, Rembrandt, Schiavonetti, Schmidt, Sharp, Sherwin, Skelton, Lumb Stocks, Strange, Suyderhoef, Testa, Van Dalen, Van Dyck, Van de Velde, Vertue, Visscher, Vivares, Vorsterman, Waterloo, Watteau, White, Wille, and Woollett. The opportunity is unique. Collectors will be enabled to perfect their sequences, and the print dealers will doubtless be drawn by many of the rarer specimens.

THE BRITISH ARTISTS.

NOBODY expects to find much to praise in the works of the British Artists, and perhaps there is nothing to get very angry about. If the works exhibited in Suffolk-street are for the most part poor in quality, they can hardly be said to be bad in the sense of being pernicious. Feebleness is their most conspicuous characteristic. The attempt to infuse new life into the society after Mr. Whistler's followers had departed, by the introduction of a number of new members, has, however, been partially successful. The qualification tests do not seem to be very severe, however, but, at the same time, nearly all the work worth looking at is by these men. To take a few of the old members first:—Mr. Wyke Bayliss exhibits as usual some of his everlasting church interiors; Mr. L. C. Henley, Mr. R. J. Gordon, and Mr. C. E. Marshall and others have painted studio pictures from models and properties and costumes with about as much effect as such works generally display. Among the younger men Mr. John Fraser shows some very fresh sea and fishing-boat pictures; his best is "A Shetland Haven," in water-colour. Mr. Nelson Dawson has some clever work, but his big picture is comparatively a failure. Mr. F. H. A. Parker has a very pretty picture—"Lilies in the Garden"—which is very interesting, and Mr. F. Brangwyn—a talented young man—has several dexterous works. Mr. J. R. Reid's "When the Boats Come in" is very strong and fresh amid its dull surroundings. "Drifting," by Mr. C. Cayley Robinson, a blue and green picture of three girls in a boat, is also strong. There is a good autumnal landscape by Mr. W. S. Jay, which contains much careful work; while "Rigging the Model," by Mr. J. Kerr-Lawson, has good qualities of colour. In the fourth room is a flower piece by H. Cauchois, a blind French beggar by G. S. Hunter, and "A Cliff Pasture" by W. H. Y. Titcomb, all more or less noteworthy. The fifth room contains a strong landscape by Mr. John Aborn, and a feeble portrait of Wilkie Collins by Walter Goodman.

G. T.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

ANSTEY, F. "The Pariah." (Smith, Elder, and Co.)
[A new edition in one volume. Cloth. Pp. 448. Price 6s.]

AUTHOR of "John Halifax, Gentleman." "The Ogilvies." (Macmillan and Co.)
[A novel in one volume. Cloth. Pp. 432. Price 3s. 6d.]

BIGG, HEATHER, F.R.C.S. "A New Review of National Education." (David Stott.)
[Cloth. Pp. xiv., 117.]

CARSTENSEN, A. RIIS. "Two Summers in Greenland." (Chapman and Hall.)
[An artist's adventures among ice and islands, in fjords and mountain. Cloth. Pp. xxxii., 186. Many illustrations.]

HOPKINS, TIGHE. "The Nugents of Carriconna: a Story More or Less Irish." (Ward and Downey.)
[A novel in three volumes.]

IBSEN, HENRIK. "Ghosts: An Enemy of the People: The Wild Duck." (Walter Scott).
[The second volume of the authorized English edition, translated and edited by Mr. William Archer. Cloth. Pp. v., 382. Price 3s. 6d.]

JOHNSON-BROWN, A. "Rejected of Men, and Other Poems." (Sampson Low.) [Cloth. Pp. 88.]

MASSON, DAVID (Editor). "The Collected Writings of Thomas De Quincey." (A. and C. Black.)
[Vol. vi., containing Historical Essays and Researches, Homer and the Homeride, the Philosophy of Herodotus, Cicero and the Cæsars, are among the articles contained in this volume. Cloth. Pp. 446. Price 3s. 6d.]

PIERCE, J. M.A. "In Cloud and Sunshine." (Trübner and Co.)
[A volume of verse. Cloth. Pp. 284.]

SMYTH, J. PATERSON. "The Old Documents and the New Bible." (Bagster.)
[An easy lesson for the people in Biblical Criticism." The Old Testament. Cloth. Pp. xiv., 216. Illustrations. Price 2s. 6d.]

VEITCH, SOPHIE, F. F. "The Dean's Daughter." (Alexander Gardner.)
[A novel in one volume. Cloth. Pp. 292.]

WEYMAN, STANLEY J. "The House of the Wolf: a Romance." (Longmans, Green, and Co.)
[Cloth. Pp. 278. Price 6s.]

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month), on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

City Notes.

THE CAPITAL CREATIONS OF THE QUARTER.

The new applications for capital on the London market during the first quarter of the year amount to a very considerable sum, although very much under the total of the corresponding period last year. In the first three months of 1889 the public were asked to subscribe nearly 57 millions, while in the quarter just closed only 30½ millions have been created. This is less even than 1888, when the total was 34¾ millions. The figures for the present year do not include the two large conversion loans issued by Russia. Foreign railway enterprises, financial trusts, and industrial companies have absorbed the bulk of the money. A comparatively small amount has been asked for mining speculations.

THE PROFITS IN COTTON-SPINNING.

Following up our note on cotton spinning and bi-metallism of the 13th March, a correspondent provides us with the results of the present quarterly stock-takings of nineteen Lancashire cotton-spinning companies, viz.:—

	Spindles.	Profit.	Profit per cent. per annum on Share Capital.	Actual Dividend Declared.
Dowry	66,760	£1,201	14½	9
Equitable ...	78,780	1,516	9¾	—
Ivy	34,656	805	4	11½
Leechbrook ...	85,760	2,525	24½	10
Ridgefield ...	69,072	2,065	18	10½
Rochdale ...	70,672	2,483	39	12½
Stanley	48,460	850	9	—
Duke	73,012	1,654	19	12
Albert.....	23,810	531	9	9
Hathershaw ...	77,424	1,315	10	—
New Earth...	44,448	600	9	—
Parkside.....	68,762	1,460	15	10
Royton	67,620	1,360	15	10
Hollinwood ...	75,024	1,980	20	10
Westend.....	118,540	2,175	11½	10
Lees Union...	63,000	765	10	7½
Grosvenor ...	11,220	270	20	10
Hope	66,678	1,908	17	—
Oak.....	109,562	2,000	16	—

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

Liberia, like the rest of Africa, is awakening to the possibilities of development. This Republic is situated on the west coast, having the British colony of Sierra Leone on the south-east, and the colony of the Gold Coast on the north-west. It was first settled in 1821 by freed negroes from the United States, under the auspices jointly of the United States Government and the American Colonization Society. It continued a colony under governors appointed from the United States until 1847, when it became an independent Republic. The United States has established a Legation at Monrovia, the capital of the Republic, and supports there a Minister Resident and Consul-general. Germany, Sweden, and Norway, Belgium, Holland, and Denmark are also represented. There are Consuls-general of the Republic in London and all the European capitals, and Consuls at all the chief towns of this country and the Continent. The Government is modelled after that of the United States. There are a President and Vice-President, a Legislature composed of two branches, a Senate and House of Representatives, and Courts of Justice where the common law of England is practised. Since the declaration of the independence of the Republic forty-three years ago it has maintained an exclusive policy forbidding the introduction of foreign capital, through fear of imposition from foreigners. But the progress of events and the openings in Africa have brought the Liberians to the conclusion to place themselves on the line of progress, and in the month of December, 1889, the Legislature of the new State granted to a syndicate of Englishmen a concession for the control of the manufacturing and exporting of indiarubber from the territory of the Republic, which extends along the coast for 500 miles and 300 miles into the interior. The Liberian Concessions and Exploration Company (Limited), whose prospectus has just been issued, are negotiating for further concessions for dealing with the mineral, vegetable, and animal products which abound in the country. Liberian rubber and coffee are well known in the English market.

The Ladies' Corner.

ROUND THE CLOCK WITH A LONDON DRAPER.

There are drapers and drapers, ranging from the West-end establishment to the small suburban "ever-open" obscurity. The five o'clock movement has happily bridged this gulf to some extent, though many, many a poor girl has still to work fourteen hours a day, and only concludes the week's toil with the midnight chime which heralds the hardly-earned "day of rest." A house enjoying the sweets of Saturday half-holidays, or one under the five o'clock banner, is much sought for by "girls" (all women are girls in the drapery trade), and when once in a good "in-boured" firm an assistant's lot compares very favourably with that of many a toiler in Modern Babylon. But a small suburban shops the work expected is often of a nondescript character, and may include household duties and various etceteras hardly within the scope of the drapery trade. On the other hand, a position in a large firm is often rendered tedious by the long regulations rather than the long hours; and only by long mechanical practice and patience may a cute, civil, and careful saleswoman secure a post as buyer or chief assistant in a department. Show-room work is sought in preference to so-called "counter-jumping," though when a vacancy occurs stately bearing and a good figure will often outweigh sterling business qualifications. In a large house the "girls" enjoy privileges beyond those extended to the "fellows" (another trade term), and much jealousy is often engendered thereby. Though in the suburbs "girls" may be maids-of-all-work, throughout the larger firms the morning "squaddling" or shop dusting and preparation, is a monopoly enjoyed exclusively by the "fellows," and this involves a start at perhaps seven o'clock, when a huge sonorous bell records the hour in an unmistakable manner. Woe betide the unfortunate who arrives late, for he will surely be fined something between 2d. and 1s., according to the heinousness of the crime, though in justice it should be stated that morning and evening dress are optional; and a strange, half-clothed, sleepy appearance the average "squadder" presents. The toilet is subsequently completed, breakfast is enjoyed for just twenty minutes, and the early birds repair to their respective counters, there to meet their more favoured colleagues, the "girls." Strict discipline is usually the order, and, whatever advantages either sex may otherwise enjoy, a marked equality exists as to the fines imposed throughout the day. These "correctors" vary from 2d. to 10s., and to enumerate the multitudinous opportunities presented to the unwary would cover much paper. The list of "offences" may often be found in a draper's check-book, and sufficient food for long study is afforded to the "fresh hands" in mastering its details. In fact, in some houses, 'tis said, all the regulations are never understood. Suffice it to mention a few stock offences, such as too long a meal, late arrival, incorrect bills, incorrect checking, taking bad money, giving wrong change, leaving one's department without a just reason, and many other misdemeanours which trip the unwary. To balance this network of penalties a "spiff" system is usually adopted, spiffs being premiums placed on certain articles, *not* of the last fashion, indicated by a marvellous hieroglyphic put on the price ticket. These marks are well known by the assistant, and the almost invisible mystic sign explains why an article, wholly unsuitable, is foisted on the jaded customer as "just the thing." The price marks themselves are often conundrums to "madam," because these too are written in unknown characters, often drawn from a motto code.

In some firms the girls, when not serving, are permitted to adjourn to a comfortable sitting and reading room, or are allowed to sit behind the counters, and, with respect to food, dainties are often provided in form of fish, fowl, or pastry, which the less favoured "fellows" fail to obtain. The average time for meals are half an hour and twenty minutes for dinner and tea respectively, except throughout the hottest weather, when the tea-time is extended to thirty minutes, in consideration of the longer hours consequent on light evenings. Supper is usually provided immediately after closing time, and then a much-coveted span of freedom is enjoyed till eleven o'clock *sharp*, or twelve o'clock one night a week, for the convenience of playgoers. As any "fellow" who contemplates starting a business for himself usually chooses a wife from among the "girls" of the house, it will be seen that a real "trade unionism" exists among the community, in a peculiar sense, and the so-called "rag trade" is thus perpetuated by duly qualified assistants.

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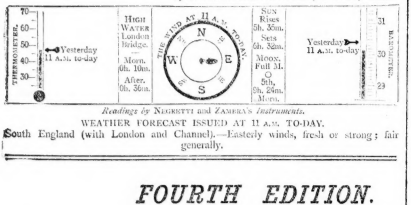

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WEATHER FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY.

South England (with London and Channel).—Easterly winds, fresh or strong; fair generally.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE LOUISVILLE DEATH ROLL.

The exact number of persons who lost their lives through the recent tornado has now been ascertained to be ninety-three. There are, moreover, 150 persons badly injured, several of whom cannot possibly recover.

The crevasses continue to threaten danger along the front of the Yazoo district, and it is feared that the Yazoo delta will be submerged. An inundation has occurred at Pecun Grove, Texas, and the damage is considerable. The crevasse in Louisiana has reached Rayville, thirty miles inland, and has extended to a mile in width. All the crevasses above here are growing larger, but up to the present the district actually under water is restricted to six parishes, and the losses to property sustained are not very heavy except in the destruction of live stock. This, however, is considerable. The poor people of the district are suffering severely.—*Daily tel.*

A pathetic story of the floods is telegraphed from Illinois. A farmer named Grant Adsit, with his wife and two children, rashly attempted to cross Sugar Creek, with the result that the body of the waggon in which they were riding was swept away by the fierce current. Adsit tried heroically to save his family, but he and the two children were drowned. Mrs. Adsit caught hold of the branch of a tree, whence she was rescued.

CAPRIVI, KALNOKY, AND CRISPI.

The Emperor William favours personal meetings between the Imperial Chancellor and the Austrian and Italian Premiers with a view to still further cementing the Triple Alliance. General von Caprivi will consequently visit Vienna and Rome to have interviews with Count Kalnoky and Signor Crispi, and they are expected to return his visit.—*Daily tel.*

BRUSSELS AS A SEAPORT.

The construction of a large seaport, with three basins, near Brussels (says a Daily tel despatch), has now been determined upon. The syndicate in London, presided over by Lord Brassey and Lord Sheffield, has resolved to entrust the works to the son of the engineer of the Forth Bridge and M. Verveiz Willebrök. The canal from the Scheldt to Brussels is to be deepened to an extent which will permit of vessels of 1,000 tons reaching the Belgian capital.

THE KAISER DESIRES SUNDAY REST.

The Kaiser (says a message from Berlin) has issued an order that the first two rows in the gallery of the Hofkirche shall henceforth be reserved for soldiers, as he does not like to be gazed at by sightseers while attending divine service. "From the moment I enter the church," he said to-day, "till I leave, hundreds of curious eyes fasten on me; this annoys me. I want to be left alone on Sundays, at least in church. People who want to see me can stare at me on the Promenade Unter den Linden and in the Thiergarten."—*Daily tel.*

THE KAISER'S WISH FOR A NEW CHANCELLOR.

According to a Daily tel Berlin despatch, it transpires that General von Caprivi was asked last February by the Emperor to assume the post of Chancellor of the Empire. He replied that he would prefer to meet with an honourable death on the battlefield, but would obey the Emperor's wishes.

COUNT HERBERT BISMARCK'S MARRIAGE.

The *Dix-Neuvième Siècle* (says a Paris telegram by Dalziel) prints a despatch from Berlin, stating that Count Herbert Bismarck is to be married to the Princesse de Consolates.

FOUNDERING OF AN HISTORIC GUNBOAT.

An Exchange Company's telegram from Paris says:—The famous gunboat invented by Captain Farcy, which took part in the defence of Paris during the siege, and which has since been exhibited in many exhibitions, foundered yesterday while being towed from Havre to Cherbourg.

SUDDEN ILLNESS OF THE TZAR.

THE PLOT AGAINST HIS LIFE.

SPREAD OF THE STUDENT DISAFFECTION.

A Special Correspondent at St. Petersburg telegraphs to the *Daily Telegraph:*

The Emperor has been suddenly taken ill.

The person deputed to kill the Tzar, of whom I telegraphed yesterday, was a naval officer of aristocratic family, who had returned from four years' obligatory service at sea about a twelvemonth ago. His mother and relatives live in Moscow. He had lodgings in the north part of St. Petersburg which is called the Vassili Ostrouff. He went into society occasionally, and conducted himself so as to excite no suspicion. Indeed, so slight was the *prima facie* evidence of the truth of his confession that the authorities at first looked upon it as the ravings of a man of disordered intellect. No papers compromising any of his comrades have been discovered, though there are unmistakable traces of voluminous documents having been destroyed shortly before his death. It is not true—as at first stated—that he poisoned himself. He asphyxiated himself by sleeping in a small bedroom where charcoal in considerable quantities was burning. In the letter he left he distinctly refuses to repudiate the ideas in the name of which he conspired against the Tzar, and states that he cannot fulfil the task laid upon him because he has not the heart to compromise his unoffending relatives, who have always treated him with affection, and whose good name he is anxious not to stain. The matter is being hushed up, and no obituary notice of a marine officer has appeared in any of the newspapers as yet.

I had an interview this morning with a very popular professor of the university, and was present during the reception of a deputation of six students, who called upon him to elicit some public mark of that sympathy for the movement which he is known to feel. He declared his sympathy with their objects, but doubted the judiciousness of the means employed to obtain them. He declined to write any address to the students, on the ground that it would do him and them immense harm and no one any good. He reasoned with them, and entreated them to be prudent. They replied, however, that the advice had come too late. They had gone too far to turn back, and now they would continue the agitation until something came of it, good or bad. They had sent delegates to other universities, which would doubtless make common cause with them. They are indignant with the Government for encouraging drunkenness, gambling, debauchery, and other personal and social vices, merely in order to wean them from the consideration and discussion of political questions. In like manner they complain that the scientific teaching is sacrificed to political expediency, and that a graduate, after four or five years of so-called study, knows more of book knowledge than a "freshman," and is generally wholly demoralized by the system of espionage, false witnessing, and administrative punishment—moreover, that it is impossible, say the students, to study calmly and profitably while helpless women are being flogged to death in Siberia and unoffending Jews throughout the country treated like condemned felons.

It is reported that Mdme. Tchebriakova has been released, nor is there much hope of her being soon set at liberty. Arrests are being made every day in the two capitals, but many of those who are imprisoned are perfectly innocent of complicity with political crime.

THE "CITY OF PARIS."

The water has been pumped out of the *City of Paris*, and she left Queenstown for Liverpool last night under her own steam, working the port engines. An examination showed that the bottom is uninjured, and all the bulkheads are intact except those in the engine-room, which were damaged by the broken machinery. Consequently, the vessel was perfectly safe, and everything indicates that she would have floated indefinitely, so no watch without further submersion or risk. Her maximum submersion was only equal to that on her leaving port with a full cargo and coal, the coal consumed on the voyage being equivalent to the quantity of water which got into her.

ALLEGED OUTRAGE ON AN ENGLISH LADY IN GERMANY.

A telegram from Bonn by Dalziel says:—The police are puzzled over the case of an English lady who alleges that she was dragged, outraged, and robbed in a railway carriage near the station. The lady arrived there from Cologne a few nights ago on the train which leaves Cologne at twelve o'clock (midnight). She was in an hysterical condition, and as she was unable to speak German it was impossible to get an explanation from her. She was conveyed to a hotel, and there reported that she had been robbed of a very large sum of money, and that she had been subjected to indignities. As the midnight train only makes one stoppage, at the station of Bruehl, the intruder must have entered the coupé at the latter station. The railway guards deny any knowledge of the reported occurrence. The lady has returned to Cologne, but her name and address are in the hands of the police. She is evidently a gentlewoman.

PROF. STOKES AND THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL.

The Rev. Edward White writes to the *Times*:—Many of your readers may have been somewhat scandalized by the statements of the President of the Royal Society respecting erroneous popular views on the natural immortality of the soul. He supported his views by the authority of three living bishops (unnamed), and allow me to add that Sir George Stokes's views are only a reproduction of those of St. Athanasius as delivered in his great treatise on "The Incarnation of the Word," in which, in the most unmistakable language, he attributes the prospect of endless existence for saved men, as well as eternal happiness, to that incarnation, and not to any natural endowment of immortality.

THE HOME SECRETARY AND THE CREWE MURDERERS

There is an impression that the Home Secretary takes a very serious view of the case, regarding it as a most atrocious murder; and that, even if he should advise a reprieve with respect to the younger prisoner, the elder brother will suffer the extreme penalty of the law.

Mr. Lawson, M.P., has presented to the House of Commons a petition for the reprieve of the Crewe parricides, the petition being signed by the Earl of Rosebery, chairman, and several members of the London County Council—of course, in their individual capacity.

THE EASTER VACATION AT THE LAW COURTS.

The judges rise for the Easter Vacation this afternoon, after which there will be no further sittings in court until Tuesday, the 18th inst., when the Easter sittings begin. Mr. Justice Denman will be the Easter Vacation Judge, and his lordship will be in attendance at Queen's Bench Judges' Chambers for the purpose of hearing applications of an urgent nature on Thursday, the 3rd, Thursday, the 10th, and Monday, the 14th instant respectively. On those days during the vacation when the judge is not in attendance at chambers applications of a very urgent character may be made to his lordship at his private residence, 8, Cranley-gardens, South Kensington, S.W.

THE NEW PREMISES OF THE LEYSIAN MISSION.

The handsome new premises of the Leysian Mission in Errol-street, Clerkenwell, will be opened on Wednesday, the 23rd inst. Dr. Allon will preach a sermon in the afternoon, and Sir Robert Fowler, M.P., will take the chair at the evening meeting. The old boys of the Leys School, Cambridge, who are responsible for the undertaking, have, the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner* writes, already raised £5,000, and are now appealing for £4,000 more. It is estimated that the ordinary annual expenses will not exceed £600, of which £400 will be raised by Old Leysians. In the new home of the mission every detail has been made subservient to the social principles on which the work of the mission is conducted. A room has been specially built, with kitchen ranges, for the use of the factory girls working in the neighbourhood, and there are also a dispensary and a coffee bar. The gymnasium, in keeping with the traditions of the Leys School, is commodious and well equipped. The mission building adjoins a Roman Catholic schoolhouse, the authorities of which have generously contributed towards the expenses necessitated by special lighting arrangements.

MDME. BERNHARDT AND THE PARIS PASSION PLAY.

Mdme. Sarah Bernhardt has written to the Archbishop of Paris to ask whether it would be offensive to Catholics to perform the Passion play of M. Haraucourt on Good Friday evening, in ordinary costume, and in the form of an oratorio, interspersed with declamation. She adds that her own desire would be to introduce some kind of monastic or pilgrim garb more in keeping with the high character of the poem. Cardinal Richard has given no direct reply, but has merely repeated that in principle he disapproves of mystery plays, which are only adapted exclusively to a Catholic state of society and to very simple ones such as those of Ober-Ammergau or Brixlegg. The announcement that M. Haraucourt's piece is about to be produced creates something of a sensation in Paris society, and tickets are already being sold for far above the ordinary booking price.

It is stated that Canon MacColl has been in communication both with the Bishop of London and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners as to the removal of his City church, and that the rector of the adjoining parish of St. Mary-at-Hill has been asked by the Commissioners if he would consent to having the parish of St. George annexed to his cure. Canon MacColl prefers the fusion with St. Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge.

THE RELATIONS OF FRANCE AND GERMANY.

M. SIMON ON HIS BERLIN EXPERIENCES.

WHAT THE KAISER AND BISMARCK SAID TO HIM.

With reference to the statement made yesterday by the Paris *La Paix* regarding the German Emperor's feeling towards France, the *Standard's* Paris correspondent says that the report of the German Emperor being desirous to conciliate France has for some time past been current in well-informed quarters

M. Jules Simon has returned to Paris most favourably impressed by the courtesy of the reception of his colleagues and himself. The German Emperor won his heart by the kindly deference and attention he paid to the venerable ex-member of the Government of National Defence. "M. Simon had never met Prince Bismarck" (writes an interviewer of the *Figaro*), "but the Prince went to meet him, escorted by his two favourite hounds, and familiarly said, 'Allow me to introduce myself—I am M. de Bismarck,' and then, without any further ceremony, they entered into conversation. It was on the very day that the resignation of the Chancellor had been accepted that the French delegates dined with him *en petit comité*. The Prince was very calm, and spoke freely of his plans to live as a private gentleman. 'I have some money,' he said; 'I have twenty thousand hectares of forests; it is time that I should attend to my own business.' M. Jules Simon is convinced that the retirement of the Prince is definitive. He also expressed his gratification at the courtesy paid him by the two Empresses, Marshal Moltke, and the official world generally. Respecting the Emperor, M. Jules Simon was much impressed by the fact that he speaks French fluently, and without the slightest accent, and he was surprised at the accuracy and extent of his information. 'Either,' said M. Simon, 'the Emperor has greatly changed within the last few months or he is a very different man from what he has been described.' At one of the Court receptions M. Simon felt and looked rather tired. The Emperor took his arm and said, '*Allez donc vous reposer!*' M. Simon demurred, but the Emperor insisted, remarking, 'It is high time for you to go to bed. I cannot send you back to Paris an invalid.'" In the *Temps* M. Simon himself thus sums up his impressions:—"France was treated at Berlin like every other nation, *C'est à dire, on ne peut mieux.* These good relations between men come from such a distance are possibly the happiest result of the Conference."

Some 180 interviewers tried in the course of two days to interview M. Jules Simon on his return from Berlin.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S SEVENTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY.

TRIBUTES FROM THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DUKEDOM.

Prince Bismarck's seventy-fifth birthday furnished the occasion for an impressive scene last night in the pine-wood avenues and the meadows of his Friedrichsruhe estate. This second torchlight procession of some 3,000 men was led by 1,300 officials of the Altona District Railway. Filing through the pine trees, which were lit up by the coloured magnesium lights and the torches carried by the processionists, the uniformed ranks passed into the meadow opposite the Prince's palace. The Prince, when he appeared, was greatly moved, and was obliged to wipe the tears from his eyes. The military bands having played a solemn chorale, Railway President Krahn made an eloquent speech expressive of the feelings of thirty millions of Germans that day. There was a pause, and then the Prince, addressing his railway audience, gave a masterly review of the forty years' service of coal and iron towards the development and happiness of the nation that he himself has unified. Prince Bismarck repeated his resolution to remain at rest in the peaceful scenes around Friedrichsruhe. Dr. Schweninger remained close to the Prince during his return through the enthusiastic ranks. President Krahn was invited into the palace.

Nearly all the German papers publish eulogistic articles in honour of Prince Bismarck's seventy-fifth birthday. The number of the letters and telegrams received by the Prince yesterday is almost inconceivable. A truck-full of lovely and costly bouquets and flowers has reached the ex-Chancellor.

As to the proposition to erect a monument in Berlin, Prince Bismarck's own ideas about monuments to men still living were expressed in the Reichstag on November 28, 1881, in these words:—

As to statues, I must say that I am not at all susceptible to that kind of flattery. If, for instance, I were in Cologne, I should be extremely embarrassed as to what face I should put on in passing any statue to me. This happens to me at Kissingen. It disturbs me in my walk. I see a stand, as it were, fossilized beside myself.

The Prince himself yesterday denied the report of the *National Zeitung* that he had declined the title of Duke, saying, "The facts were in the *Reichsanzeiger*. What that contains is true." After a pause he added, "If ever I travel to Italy or elsewhere the title of Duke of Lauenburg will be the best name to find me by."

The Emperor has presented Prince Bismarck as a birthday gift, with Professor Angeli's life-size portrait of the Emperor William I.

At yesterday's dinner the Prince said, "The Emperor has executed a strange *chassé-croisé*. He has made his best general Chancellor, and his Chancellor a general."

THE SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES.

The general council of the Social-Democratic Federation (says an official communication) have decided to put forward Social-Democratic candidates at the next general elections in the following constituencies:

Chelsea: Mr. H. M. Hyndman.
East Finsbury: Mr. J. Connell.
East Islington: Mr. H. W. Hobart (who stood for the East St. Pancras division at the London County Council elections).
Hoxton: Mr. J. Hunter Watts.
North-east Bethnal Green: Mr. H. R. Taylor (who stood for the East Islington division at the London County Council elections).
Wandsworth: Mr. John Ward (who stood for the West Lambeth division at the last London School Board election).

The Social Democratic Federation have further resolved to contest Bermondsey, East St. Pancras, Greenwich, South-west Ham, and Stepney; but the candidates have not yet been fixed for these divisions. It is stated that other constituencies will also be contested by the Social Democrats.

THE NEW YORK UNDERGROUND RAILWAY.

In connection with the Dalziel despatch concerning the New York underground railway published in our issue of the 22nd ult.—and criticised by a correspondent in our issue of yesterday—we have been supplied by Dalziel's agency with the following extract from the *New York Herald* of March 22:—

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD SETBACK.

The scheme of the New York Underground Railway Company for the construction of an underground railroad from the City Hall Park to the Harlem River got another setback yesterday in a decision rendered by Judge Friedman, of the Superior Court. He refused to grant a mandamus directing the Commissioner of Public Works to permit the company to make excavations in the streets for the purpose of constructing its proposed underground railroad. "The relator," says Judge Friedman, in a very elaborate and exhaustive opinion, "has shown neither a clear legal right nor the necessity for the issuance of the writ."

The following extract is from the *New York World* of the same date:—

THE UNDERGROUND ROAD DEFEATED.

Judge Friedman, in the Superior Court, has denied the application of the people on the relation of the New York Underground Railway Company for a mandamus to compel the Commissioner of Public Works to grant the company a permit to open the streets along its proposed route. The judge says the company has forfeited its charter by non-use, that it has not secured the consent of one-half of the property owners or the consent of the Board of Aldermen, and that the General Term of the Supreme Court has not appointed commissioners to fix compensation for the property proposed to be taken.

THE "TRAFALGAR" COMMISSIONED.

H.M.S. *Trafalgar* was commissioned at Portsmouth this morning by Captain Alan Thomas, with a complement of 550, as flagship of Lord Walter Kerr in the Mediterranean. She is the largest ship in the navy, having a displacement of 12,000 tons. She was built with unusual rapidity, her first keel plate having been laid down only four years and three months ago, and nearly £100,000 was saved from the estimate for her construction.

HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY CHANGE QUARTERS.

This morning the annual change of quarters of the three regiments of Household Cavalry took place in London and Windsor. The 1st Life Guards marched from Windsor to Regent's Park Barracks; the 2nd Life Guards proceeded from Regent's Park to Knightsbridge Barracks; while the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) went from Knightsbridge Barracks to Windsor.

AN ATLANTIC POLICE PATROL.

A Washington cablegram by Dalziel says:—A petition has been introduced into Congress asking the President to communicate with all foreign Powers interested in Transatlantic travel in regard to the advisability of establishing an efficient system of ocean patrol. The proposal of the petitioners is that each nation should contribute one or more war or other kind of vessel suitable for the purpose, and constitute a kind of international ocean police.

THE TEMPORAL POWER OF THE POPE.

REPORTED NEGOTIATIONS WITH AUSTRIA.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Tribuna* of Rome states that he has had an interview with a statesman who informed him that negotiations were in progress between the Vienna Cabinet and the Vatican, with a view to restoring some temporal power to the Pope. The arrangement proposed is that the Trentino, or Italian Tyrol, should become a Pontifical State, under the protection of the Catholic Powers, and that the Pope should take up his residence at Trent. The author of this proposal, it is said, is Dr. Eugenio Valussi, Bishop of Trent.

TORY DENUNCIATION OF THE LAND BILL.

The *Dublin Express* (C.) strongly condemns Mr. Balfour's Land Bill, which, it says, imperils the interests of Irish Conservatism and Irish loyalism as well as the interests of the nation as a whole. As a piece of legislative machinery it is defective past remedy. It sets an arbitrary limit to price. It is voluntary in form, but compulsory in fact, for by opening a land market at such a time it subjects owners to the certainty of being driven thither by a combination of tenants or the pressure of creditors, and it is an encouragement to the Executive to act weakly and permit lawlessness so long as it makes the Act work. It is a public bribe to the peasantry in order to purchase their peace—an expectation doomed to disappointment. It is a wholly gratuitous act of legislation and contrary to the expressed sense of the landlords at their last public meeting in Dublin. It makes directly for Home Rule and separation, for those who own the land of an agricultural country must shape its course. Time, no doubt, will reveal what is the motive force behind this bill, which is plainly a peril even to the immediate political prospects of the Unionist party.

THE NEW IRISH JUDGE.

It is announced in Dublin to-day that Mr. Justice Murphy has been transferred from the Queen's Bench—in which there are seven judges—to the Exchequer Division, to replace the late Baron Dowse. Thus the vacancy in the Queen's Bench can await the convenience of the Government.

The Speaker, accompanied by Mrs. Peel, left his official residence at Westminster, this morning, for Cromer, where he will remain over the recess.

Sir George Trevelyan left Charing-cross by the Continental train this morning for Paris, for the Easter holidays.

AN UNPUBLISHED WORK BY THE REV. F. D. MAURICE.

Concurrently with the announcement that a life of the late Rev. F. Denison Maurice is in preparation by his son, Colonel J. F. Maurice, R.A., Professor of Military Art and History at the Staff College, Sandhurst, the London correspondent of the *Manchester Courier* states that the latter is about speedily to give to the world a hitherto unpublished *brochure* by his father on the Quaker doctrine of non-resistance.

SOME OF THE NEW GERMAN CHANCELLOR'S HABITS.

General von Caprivi, the new German Chancellor, never has a pipe out of his mouth when he is not eating or drinking his meals, but he drinks beer by the gallon. He is a man of considerable ability, and most deliberate in all his proceedings. He always meditates for a minute or two before answering even the most trifling question."—*Truth.*

ADVANCE OF COAL PRICES IN THE MIDLANDS.

Circulars have been issued by the colliery owners in Warwickshire, South Staffordshire, and Cannock Chase, announcing further advances in the price of coal, varying from 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* a ton. The Cannock Chase owners demand from the 1st inst. 8*s.* at the pit for slack (termed screenings), withdrawing the usual rebate, ranging from 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* The owners have declined to state prices, and customers have had their invoices altered from day to day. Recently a Birmingham merchant was advised that his trucks had been filled, but no price being quoted he annulled the contract, but had to send men to the colleries to unload them.

THE FUNERAL OF THE DUKE OF MANCHESTER.

Lord and Lady Gosford arrived in London on Sunday evening to attend the funeral of the late Duke of Manchester. The Dowager Duchess of Manchester, accompanied by Lord Charles Montagu and the Duchess of Hamilton, left St. Pancras yesterday evening by the 5.40 train for Kimbolton, where the funeral will take place. The body of the late Duke left Naples by the sea route on the 31st ultimo.

THE WESLEYAN METHODIST LECTIONARY.

The Wesleyan Methodists have at length got a lectionary of their own, and are no longer dependent on the Church of England Prayer-book for the table of lessons for public worship. The new lectionary, which has been prepared with great care by a competent Conference committee, is, writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*, admirably adapted for Methodist purposes, and the general plan is so arranged as to include substantially the whole of Scripture in the course of two years. An arrangement of the Psalter is also given for use in the weekday services, with suitable lessons for special occasions, and proper lessons for the various Christian festivals.

THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART.

The work of erecting the great church of the Sacred Heart at Montmartre (says a Dalziel telegram from Paris) was resumed yesterday, and it is intended henceforth to expend 100,000 f. a month until its completion. The subscriptions for the construction of this edifice exceed 20,000,000 f., the exact figure being 22,083,000 f. The amount laid out up to the present time is 21,525,000 f.

SIR W. M'GREGOR'S EXPLORATIONS IN NEW GUINEA.

Sir William M'Gregor has sent a further, but still very bald, account of his recent explorations to the Governor of Queensland. In a telegram from Thursday Island, he says:—"We left the Fly Estuary on December 26 above D'Albertis furthest point, latitude 5 deg. 64 min. south. The Fly divides into two branches of equal size. I followed one—named by me the Palmer—for eight days upon the frontier. A whaleboat stopped in a reach at 6 deg. south, five miles from the mouth of the Fly and a dozen miles from the German boundary. . . . . We reached the frontier and returned here without firing a shot at the natives. Peaceful relations have been established for nearly the whole way. We have spent five weeks and four days on the whole tour, out and back. The climate is good, and the health of the party has been fair. The country is disappointing. The natives are not numerous."

A BLACKSMITH'S GOOD FORTUNE.

George Osbaldestone, of Leigh, a blacksmith, who has lately been employed as ostler at the George and Dragon Inn, Leigh, has received the intelligence that he and his two sisters have by the death of a great-uncle come into a fortune of £12,000 and two rows of large shops in London. The property is to be divided amongst the parties in equal proportions.

A USURER GETS HIS DESERTS.

A usurer named Ludwig Matthias, of Aschersleben, has just been sentenced to six months' imprisonment, 2,000 marks fine, and five years' police surveillance for charging an army officer 180 per cent. interest on money lent.—*Dalziel.*

NEW RAILWAY IN YORKSHIRE.

Yesterday afternoon Major Marindin, of the Board of Trade, inspected a new line of railway between Driffield and Market Weighton, which has been constructed by a private company, for the purpose of bringing the coast towns of East Yorkshire into direct communication with the populous centres of West Yorkshire. The new line, which is fourteen miles long, opens up a pretty piece of country on the Wolds, and will be worked by the North Eastern Railway Company. The railway has one double line of metals, and has been in construction two years.

THE PANAMA CANAL—WORSE AND WORSE.

A correspondent of the *New York Herald* who has made an inspection of the Panama Canal works, writes from Aspinwall that the condition of affairs is worse than the worst hitherto reported, and that the difficulties in the way of finishing the work are practically insuperable.

Governor Hill (New York State) has again vetoed the Australian ballot system.

A St. Helens football player, who was injured in a match at West Leigh on Saturday, died yesterday.

Mr. Gladstone's infant granddaughter is to be baptized on Tuesday next, before her grandparents' departure for Aston Clinton.

Mr. John Dillon writes to a friend that he hopes to be in Dublin three weeks hence.

EMIN PASHA ENTERS THE GERMAN SERVICE.

HIS VISIT TO EUROPE ABANDONED.

A telegram from Bagamoyo to the *Times* says:—Emin Pasha, who has long been dallying between the English and German Administrations, has now finally accepted the proposals of Major Wissmann. He has definitely entered the German service on a salary of £1,000 a year, abandoning all thoughts of returning to Europe. Accompanied by several German officers and 200 Soudanese soldiers, he will leave Bagamoyo with a large caravan for the interior about the middle of April. The porters engaged say that they are to receive extra wages to march with the greatest speed to Lake Victoria Nyanza. The evident intention is to make treaties for Germany in all directions.

According to a Zanzibar telegram the news of Emin Pasha's decision is received very unfavourably there, but his present position is almost unparalleled in history. His rescue, which was effected at so great an expenditure of time and money, is absolutely resultless regarding himself. Within four months of reaching the coast he returns as a paid subordinate officer of a German company to the very latitudes where he so recently lived as the heroic Governor of an immense province amid world-wide admiration.

"His present employers are active, jealous rivals of the English, who organized his rescue, and his present engagement compels him to act prejudicially to their interests if he fulfils his duty towards the Germans. It is difficult to believe that Emin Pasha's choice is altogether spontaneous. Much is probably due to his accident at Bagamoyo, much to ill-health and his known indecision of character as opposed to the vigour and determination of his present employer. The caravan is leaving at the worst season of the year, and it is evidently intended to anticipate, if possible, the English plans. Its success, however, is very doubtful. The Zanzibar shops have been ransacked to supply presents for the new German subjects to be enrolled by Emin. Persistent rumours declare that Major Wissmann is in active negotiation for the services of Tippoo Tib."

A Reuter's telegram from Zanzibar says:—The Arab chief Bwana Heri has, at the request of the Germans, concluded peace, and returns to-morrow to Saadani. It was to drive him from this place that the two recent German expeditions were formed. Major Wissmann has issued a proclamation forbidding caravans to enter the German sphere of influence south of Tanga without his special permission. The German Consul-General proceeds to Lamu to-morrow with two gunboats, for the purpose of paying an official visit to the Sultan of Witu.

POLLING DAY AT WINDSOR.

(BY OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.)

To-day is felt to be an eventful occasion in the annals of the Royal borough. The rival candidates are Mr. W. H. Grenfell, Liberal, and Mr. Tress Barry, Conservative. The retirement, through ill-health, of Mr. Richardson-Gardner, causes the by-election. The ex-member beat the Liberals by 465 in 1885, and in the following year was returned unopposed. The fight, which is to be decided to-day, is more personal than political. The most popular candidate will prevail, no matter what his convictions may be. There are five polling stations. These were fairly patronised at the breakfast hour, but the busiest doings are expected during the dinner hour and after six o'clock.

It is a beautiful day, and canvassers were early abroad in large numbers. The town is dominated by Tory bills, especially by a gigantic streamer, "England expects that every man this day will do his duty—vote for Barry," and a message from Mr. Eykyn, formerly Liberal member for Windsor, recommending Mr. Barry. The Liberals have the most carriages, among the lenders being Mr. Spencer Balfour, M.P., Mr. Henry Blyth, Messrs. Gilbey, and the Hon. A. Ponsonby. The Conservatives possess carriages lent by the Duchess of Buccleuch, Lady St. Leonard, Lady Chelmondeley, and Baron Schroeder. Mr. Grenfell is driving about in a handsome private drag. The enthusiasm of the eager, colour-bedecked voters is increasing hourly, and the poll promises to be very heavy. The Liberal authorities are doubtful as to the result, but are confident they would attain an undoubted victory if they could have more time.

A Tory M.P. who has just returned from Windsor tells a London correspondent that if his friends win it will be not because but in spite of their candidate. He assures him that at a crowded and important meeting Mr. Barry came to the end of his oratorical tether in two minutes by the clock.

THE QUEEN AT AIX-LES-BAINS.

Her Majesty yesterday paid a visit to her estate at Tresserves. It is the Queen's intention to often visit Tresserves in the afternoon during her stay, and an apartment has been prepared there for her accommodation.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES AT ST. PAUL'S.

At the special service at St. Paul's last evening the Princess of Wales was present. Her Royal Highness having expressed a desire to join in worship at St. Paul's without the ceremonials due to her rank, passed in by the south-eastern gate among the people, and almost unobserved, and was without ostentation conducted by the head verger to a seat in the choir.

THE FOREST OF FONTAINEBLEAU ON FIRE.

On Monday the Forest of Fontainebleau was on fire in three places. It is probable that immense damage would have been done had it not been for the prompt and vigorous action taken by the forest authorities, aided by the population and by detachments of soldiers. As it was, a magnificent plantation of pines, covering three acres, and situated at Mont Pierreux, was destroyed, and the plain at Larchant, on the other hand, that part of the forest which was burned twelve years ago, the young growth of oak and underwood, extending over eighteen acres, fell an easy prey to the flames, as well as five acres of pitch pines in the vicinity of the powder magazine, for the safety of which great fears were entertained. The fires, which are now all extinguished, were, it is said, caused by the imprudence of some excursionists.

ACTORS ON STRIKE.

A new phase in strikes is agitating Lemberg. All the actors and actresses of the National Theatre are out on strike in consequence of a reduction in their salaries of 20 per cent. The actors are treated as public officials by the Galician Government in consequence of the theatre being subsidized by the Government, and the Galician Diet has invited them to lay their grievances before the House. Public feeling favours actors and strongly condemns the action of the management, which affects the future pensions of the Thespians as well as their present salaries. The actors and actresses have banded together, and are about to commence a series of performances at a private theatre.

INTERESTING TO PITTITES.

The directors of the theatre managers was heard at Liverpool police-court yesterday, Miss Fanny Josephs, manageress of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, being summoned under a local regulation for allowing an obstruction in the pit passages on the occasion of the last performance of Pinero's play. The house was crowded on the night referred to, and people were standing in the passages. This was the obstruction complained of. The bench, believing that human beings were not to be regarded as obstructions within the meaning of the Act, dismissed the summons.

PROPOSED STATUE TO THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A proposal is on foot among some ladies in society to erect a statue to the Princess of Wales. The suggestion is that a statue of her Royal Highness, in her robes as "Doctor of Music," should be placed as a companion to that of the Prince of Wales in the hall of the Royal College of Music.

THE NORTH WESTERN BUYING ROLLING STOCK.

The fact that not one railway company—the London and North Western—is expending on new rolling stock an amount which is officially estimated at £150,000, and the larger portion of which will be disbursed in the present half-year.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF INEBRIETY.

That there has been a marked advance in public opinion with regard to legislation for inebriates was vouched for by Dr. Norman Kerr in his presidential address at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Inebriety yesterday. If proof of the statement were wanted, it is supplied by the fact that in 1889 the committee of the British Medical Association, in response to circulars to poor-law guardians, received five times more replies than in 1862. Scotland, it was pointed out, is asking for power to compel habitual tipplers of all classes to enter special "homes," and for the treatment of the poor at the public charge. Still more to the purpose is the assertion made by the president that one-half of the patients sent to the Dalrymple Home, after their discharge, avoid the seductive and, to them, ruinous alcohol.

A Dalziel's telegram from New York announces the death of Thomas Lynch, believed to have been the oldest living actor. He was born in 1804.

St. John, who holds the championship of the foils in America won yesterday four out of five bouts with Sergeant Williams, late of the British Life Guards.—*Central News.*

Father Kreusch, head of the Jesuits in Burlington, Iowa, says his fraternity are preparing to return to Germany now that Prince Bismarck is no longer in office.—*Central News.*

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

HOME RAILS STEADY TO FIRM.—FOREIGN STOCKS AND AMERICANS BETTER.—QUIET BUSINESS.

There is a more plentiful supply of loanable capital in the open market owing to the release of money in connection with the payment of the Indian Railway and other dividends due on the beginning of April. The market, too, has now the use of the money it has recently obtained from the Bank. The charge for short loans is again 3¼ to 3½ per cent., but there is only a quiet demand. The discount rate for three months bank paper is now 2¼ to 2⅜ per cent., some of the bill-buying banks taking in paper at the lower figure.

Stock Exchange operators are again very idle, and there is absolutely nothing fresh to report with regard to new business, while the movements in prices in almost all cases are insignificant. Consols are supported by the declining tendency in the value of money and show an advance of 1-16 to ⅛, while in the Home Railway market notwithstanding some very poor traffics prices are, to-day, fairly firm. The Midland and Lancashire and Yorkshire companies have very large decreases, but the North Eastern has a substantial increase. Foreign Government Securities are inactive, except for a little buying of Turkish descriptions. American Railways are firm in response to better New York quotations. The earnings of the Louisville and Nashville for February show a net increase of 71,453 dols., and the eight months to date an increase of 903,181 dols. Louisville and Nashville shares and Northern Pacific Preference are especially strong. Trunks and Mexican Railway issues are neglected. Copper, Diamond, and South African Gold Mining shares are steady.

The British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Company granted during 1889 1,235 new policies for the assurance of £946,000 in addition to 2,119 policies for £310,640 taken over from the Western Counties and London Assurance Company upon the transfer of that company's business and assets to the British Empire Company. The premium income increased to £192,703. The rate of interest yielded by the total funds was £4 4*s.* per cent., after deducting income tax. The claims paid were under 355 policies assuring £112,936, including bonus, this amount being only 58 per cent. of the amount "expected" according to the mortality table employed in the triennial valuations. The ratio of expenditure showed a reduction of more than 4¼ per cent. upon the premiums as compared with the previous year. The total funds were increased during the year to £1,408,291.

The Continental Metropolitan Tramways Company (Limited) have received a telegram from Paris stating that the transfer of the concession to the company in Paris had been voted by 41 votes against 14. This vote also includes the concession of the new lines and extensions subject to the definite decree of the Government.

RAILWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases:* North Eastern, £9,006; Great Eastern, £3,312; North Staffords, £703; Metropolitan District, £556; Metropolitan, £211; Great Northern, £131. *Decreases:* Midland, £8,437; Lancashire and Yorkshire, £4,170; Sheffield, £2,418; Eastern and Midland, £35.

TRAMWAY TRAFFICS.—*Increases:* London Street, £331; Provincial, £114; London, £617; North Metropolitan, £596; Belfast, £244; Southampton, £26; London Southern, £18; South London, £96; Sheffield, £130; Calcutta, £120; Continental, £1,000; Wantage, £154; Bristol, £97; Gothenburg, £44; Edinburgh, £116; Bordeaux, £98; and Calais, £6.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a fair demand. Probable sales 8,000 bales. Prices on the spot are quiet, and futures show half a point decline.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved:* Brighton Deferred ⅜, North British Deferred ⅜, the Preferred ⅛, North Eastern ¼, Caledonian, Great Eastern, and North Western ⅜ each. *Receded:* Great Western, Sheffield Deferred, and Midland ⅛ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced:* Bulgarian ½, Turkish Group 2 ½, Group 1 ¼, the 1871 Loan ¾, Hungarian Gold and Spanish ⅛, Peruvian Five and Six per Cents. ⅛, Egyptian Unified ⅛, and Italian 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Risen:* Illinois Central, Louisville and Nashville, and Northern Pacific Preference ½ each, Milwaukee shares, New York Central, Norfolk and Western Preference, Pennsylvania shares, and Wabash General Mortgage ¼ each, Ontario and Western, Erie Second Mortgage, Atlantic Firsts, Philadelphia and Reading shares, and Union Pacific shares ⅛ each.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher:* Lombardo-Venetian 1-16. *Lower:* Grand Trunk Ordinary 1-16.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved:* Primitive Nitrate ¾, Tarapaca Waterworks ¼, Tamarugal Nitrate ¼, Colorado Nitrate ¼, De Beers 3-16, Jumper's Gold ⅜, Thirsts 1-16, and Ottoman Bank 1-16. *Receded:* Elmore's Copper and San Donato Nitrate ¼.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols(2¾)Money	97⅛	⅛
Do. Account	97⅜	⅜
Do. 1903	99	⅛
New 2½ per Cents.	94½	⅝
Local Loan Stock	102⅛	⅝
India 3½ per Cents.	107⅜	¾
Do. 4½ p. c. Rs	72	¾
Egyptian Guar.	101	1
Bk. of England St.	351	4
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½ p.c.	111¾	¾
Do. 3 p. ct. Scrip	101⅛	⅛xd.
Do. Consol. Stock	111	11
Leeds 4 per cent.	115	17
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	112¾	⅝
Manchester 4 p. c.	129	9
COLONIAL SECURITIES.		
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	9
Canada 3 p. c. Reg.	97½	6½
Cape 4 p c Cons Ins.	108	11 xd
Ceylon 4 p. c. Ins.	111	13
Mauritius 4 p. c. Ins.	107	9
Natal 4 p. c. C1897	103½	10½
N.S. Wales Ins 1933	112	14
„ 3½ 1923	101	⅛
New Zealand 4½ Ins.	106½	7½xd.
Queensland 4 p.c. Ins.	110	11
S. Austin. 5p.c. Reg.	109	10
Victoria 4 p.c. Ins.	110½	12½
W.Australia 6 p.c. Ins.	108	19
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentn 4½ p.c. 1888	73½	6½
Do. 3½ p.c. Extn.	61	2 xd
Do. Cedulas A	39	40
Do. „ B	39	40
Do. „ C	91	3 xd
Brazilian 4½ 1889	84½	5 xd
Do. 1889 (Opt Rly)	76½	6½
Do. „ (partly pd)	13	11 dis
B. Ayres 6 p.c. 1888	95	7 xd
„ Cedulas "I	21	2
„ „ B	30¾	¾
Bulgarian	89	90
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1892	102	4
Costa Rica 6 p.c.	91	½
„ B	85	7
Ecuador, New	24	¼
Egypt. State Dom.	101	⅛
Do. Unified	99⅛	6⅝
Egypt. Preference	105	¾
Do. Daira Sanieh	84¾	⅜
French 3 p.c. Rentes	97⅛	8
Do. 4½ p.c. Rentes	104¾	5¾
Greek 5 p.c. C. 1881-4	89½	90
Do. 4 p. c. Mon.	74	½
Hung. Gold Rentes	86½	⅝
Italian	91⅝	⅞
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888	93¾	4 xd
Peruvian 5p. c. 1872	11⅝	17
Do. 6 p. c.	19⅞	20½
Portuguese	24	¾
Russian 4 p. c. 1889	94	½xd
Spanish 4 p. c.	72⅞	11/16
Turkish 1858	105	5
Conv. A	40	⅝
Do. B	39	⅝
Do. D	39	⅝
4½ p. c. 1871	97	⅜
5 p. c. Defence	103½	3
5 p. c. Priority	95	8
Uruguay Unified	72	½xd
Do. 6 p. c. 1883	85½	6¾
Virginia Funded	43	6
U.S. 4½ p. c.	109	⅛
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Brighton Ordinary	156	8
Do. A	134	¾
Chatham Ordinary	25¾	⅛
Do. Preference	109	¾
Caledonian	113½	15¾
Great Eastern	85½	¾
Great Northern	124½	2½
Do. A	152	3
Great Western	163	⅜
Hull and Barnsley	36½	7
Lanc. and York.	129½	1½
North Western	177½	8
South Western	134	⅝
Manch. and Sheff.	66	8
Do. A	44½	⅜
Metro. Consolidated	75½	6
Do. District	30	1
Midland	143¾	¾
North Brit. Pref.	77½	8 xd
Do. Def.	50½	½xd
North Eastern	160¾	1
North Stafford	111	13
South Eastern	129	31
Do. Defd.	113½	¾
Taff Vale	74	6
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	73½	4½
Can. Pacific Shares	31⅞	2⅛
Chic. Mil. and St. Pl.	70¼	¼
Denver & R. Grande	15¼	15½
Do. Preference	46¾	⅜
Illinois Shares	117½	18½
Lake Shore	103¾	10¼
Louis & Nash	86¾	⅞
Miss. Kan. & Texas	9½	10
N.Y. Central Shares	103½	10 xd
N.Y. Ontario	18¾	⅝
N. Y. Erie Shares	24½	⅛
Do. Second Mort.	102⅜	⅜
Norfolk & West. Pref	62⅜	⅛
N.Y., P. & O. Lin Ch	33	½
North Pacific Pref.	73¾	6½
Ohio & Mississippi	20	½
Pennsylvania Sh.	55	⅛
Phil. & Read.	39¾	⅛
Union Pacific L.	64½	¾
Wabash Preferred	30¾	1¼
Do. Gen. Mort.	76½	¾
Grand Trunk Ord.	10¾	⅝
Do. First Pref.	71⅜	2½
Do. Second Pref.	40¾	9
Do. Third Pref.	23½	⅜
Do. Guaranteed	77¾	⅜
Mexican Ordinary	36⅞	7½
Do. First Pref.	113¾	13½
Do. do. Def.	103¾	4
Mexican Central	72¾	3¼
Mexican National	53½	4½
Lombardo-Venetian	10¾	11⅛
Nitrate Railway	14½	¾
Taltal	4⅝	⅝
B. Ayres & Rosario	105	6
Do. Great Southern	63	½
Central Argentine	145	8
S. Paulo (Bras.)	41	6
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	143	151½
City Bank	223½	3½
Colonial	69	71
Consolidated Bank	8⅝	9
Imperial	19½	20½
Imperial Ottoman	11 7/16	9/16
London and County	46	7
Lloyds	27⅝	8½
Lon. and Westmin.	70	1
London Joint Stock	40	1
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	59½	7½
Provincial of Ireland	21	5
Stand. Bk. of S. A	23¾	3½
Union of London	41½	2½
National Discount	11¾	¼
TRUSTS.		
Fn. & Cl. Gov. Df.	156	9
Gov. Stk. Invst. Df.	110	14
Lon. and N. V. Inv	9⅜	10⅜
Stock Conversion	1½	⅜
South African Gold	1⅛	⅜
Trus., Ex., & Sec.	6	⅛
MINING & LAND.		
Indian Con. Gold	1/6	2/0
Mysore Gold	0/4	⅛
Ooregum Gold	8½	⅛
Cape Copper	3¾	3⅞xd.
Namaqua	1⅛	2½
Mason & Barry	6¼	⅛
Rio Tinto	15⅞	16
Tharsis	5⅛	⅜
Montana	1 1/16	⅛
De Beers	19¼	⅜
Griqualand West	5½	⅜
New Jagersfontein	10⅝	⅜
City and Suburban	4⅞	5⅛
Jumper's Gold	5	⅜
Hidden	4⅛	4⅜
Robinson	2⅝	⅜
Salisbury	4½	⅜
Sutherland Reef	3¼	⅜
S. Afn. Explorata	18⅝	19
Do. New	1⅛	3pm.
G. W. of So. Afrca	3½	⅛
Exploring Co	18	16
Oceana Land	7	⅛
Southern Land		
Transvaal Land	3¼	3½pm.
TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE		
Anglo-American	49	50
Do. Preferred	83½	4½
Brazilian Submarine	8	⅛
Direct United State	10½	¾
Eastern	11¼	⅜
Do. Extension	14	⅛
Globe Telg. Trust	8⅛	⅜
National Telephone	5	⅛
OMNIBUS AND TRAM		
Lon. Gen. Om.	180	90
London Road Car	5¼	⅜
London Street	11¼	12½
London Tramways	15½	⅝
North Metropolitan	193½	194½
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterwks	260	5
East London	200	10
Grand Junction	122	6
Kent	271	6
Lambeth	254	8
New River, New	362	7
Sthwrk & Vxhall	180	5
Tavapaca	2⅛	⅜
West Middlesex	260	5
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT		
Gaslight & Coke A	249	52
Imp. Continental	218	25
South Metropolitan	230	5
Do. New	225	30
Do. C	230	5
London Electric	2¾	⅜
Metrplitan Electric	5¾	⅜
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp's	69	71
Bell's Asbestos	11	¼
Gilliland Co	341	¼
Hotchkiss	5⅛	⅛
Maxim-Nordenfelt	1⅞	2⅛
Bryant and May	13⅝	¼
Fastnet Oil	16½	⅜
Elmore's Copper, &c	4⅞	5⅛
Spratt's Patent	7⅜	⅜
Liverpool Nitrate	11	13
Colorado Nitrate	3¾	¼
Primitive Nitrate	11⅜	12
Rosario	2⅜	3⅛
San Paulo	3	¼
San Jorge	5	⅛
San Donato	2¾	⅜
Tamarugal	2	¼
Salt Union Shares	11⅛	⅛
Pand.O. Steam Del.	126	200
Royal Mail Steam	69	72
Hudson's Bay	13⅜	13⅝
Suez Canal	91¾	⅜
E. & W. India Docks	16	16
Lon. & St. K. Dock	38	4

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Thank you, Mr. Raikes. You doubtless ran your eye down this column the other day, and were touched by the fate of those post-cards to the Cape which came dribbling back from the Dead Letter Office. It will be a great convenience to have card services to the South African colonies—to extend, of course, also to the two Republics where there is such a large proportion of Englishmen.

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It is painful enough to the beholder to see the pictures on "Sending-in Day" hustled and bustled into the sacred precincts of Burlington House, but it is infinitely worse to watch the pieces of sculpture hoisted from cart to trolly and from trolly to lift. "Them's the worst lot by far," said one of the workmen yesterday, as pantingly he stood and looked at the white marble angel in a wooden cage, the tips of whose wings and toes were several times in imminent danger. Other large pieces of sculpture were in equal peril, and only the busts and statuettes, which, veiled in sheets of newspaper, were carried in by special ambassadors of the owners, escaped the perils of the road. The fact that it is *infra dig.* for the senders-in to watch the arrival of their goods saves artists from a good deal of agony and perturbation of spirit.

***

Any new auxiliary in the uphill work of prophesying to a stiff-necked generation against the literary logroller is indeed welcome. Mrs. Lynn Linton is the latest accession to the ranks of the prophets. "Of a work lately published" (says this lady in the *Fortnightly Review*), "one man alone wrote sixteen reviews. The author was his friend; and in sixteen different vehicles' he carried the flag of his friend's triumph and success." This is indeed a case for the chorus of "Name, name!" Who was the leal Reviewer? and who was the lucky Reviewed? Was the author ——, we wonder? Or ——? And the ubiquitous critic—that, of course, was ——? No one else would have had the chance. Won't Mrs. Lynn Linton kindly fill the blanks?

***

"Sir," writes the secretary of the club to whose members Sir William Marriott emitted the grotesque medley of childishness and bad taste which he was afterwards reduced to palming off as "only his chaff," "Sir: In the report of the proceedings in the House of Commons, Sir William Marriott is described as having spoken at St. James's Restaurant to 'a select gathering of ultra-Tories.' The 'United Club,' at a meeting of which Sir W. Marriott spoke, is composed, as its name implies, of members of both the Conservative and Liberal sections of the Unionist party. I shall be obliged by your insertion of this explanation." Presumably this means that the Tories of the club object to have the whole of the reflected odium and ignominy put upon their shoulders. "Please, sir, 'twasn't all us Tories. The Liberal Unionists were just as bad." No one doubted it.

***

Paris is really to hear the much-talked-of Passion Play which Madame Sarah Bernhardt had hoped to have produced either on the boards of the Porte St. Martin, or, had it been possible, in some more suitable "milieu." The great "tragédienne" had hoped to find some building in which gloomy arches and a dim religious light "might have helped out the dramatic ensemble," but the only thing approaching to this ideal was the Trocadéro, which is notoriously defective in acoustics. So the modern mystery is to be recited on Good Friday evening at M. Lamoureux's "Concert Spirituel" in the Cirque d'Hiver.

***

The words are from the pen of M. Edmond Haraucourt, a young poet, who is best known to the general public of Paris by his adaptation (or travesty) of "The Merchant of Venice," which, under the title of "Shylock," proved a great attraction this winter at the Odéon Theatre. Mdme. Sarah Bernhardt will recite the female parts—the Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalen, and Martha, and a chorus of women; M. Bremond, the parts of Caiaphas, Pilate, Judas, Peter, &c.; while the part of Our Lord has been confided to M. Philippe Garnier. The play, which is in six scenes, will be divided into two parts, between which will be executed the enchantment scene from Wagner's "Parsifal."

***

Here is a description of Mr. Crofts's Academy picture:—"The morning of the last day but one of January 241 years ago; a dense crowd pressing behind a strong force of horse and foot drawn up on three sides of a hollow square, facing inwards; on the outside a line of mounted Ironsides, the breath of their black horses rising plainly in the frosty air; within, two rows of pikemen with pikes erect; and again two rows of musketeers with their drummers, the smoke from their burning matches ascending close in front of the black cloth covering the scaffold built up against the principal front of Inigo's banqueting hall, newly added to the riverside palace of Whitehall; on the scaffold, at one side, a Roundhead officer holding the death-warrant; the headsman and his assistant in red, masked, with the axe, and, broken down with the terrible position, clutching for support at the window-sill, Mr. Herbert, the Royal body-servant, with his master's cloak and coat; in the centre the block; and on the far side, alone, bareheaded, calm, and pale, to whom all faces are turned, with one hand giving his ribbon and orders, and his parting word 'Remember!' to Bishop Juxon, and with the other hand unfastening the collar of his shirt, the King."

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With the exception of Sir John Gilbert's picture of some years back, the closing scene in the life of Charles I. has never before been attempted by any painter, English or foreign. The present picture comes as a sequel to the picture of "Charles on his way to the Scaffold through St. James's Park," shown by Mr. Crofts in the Royal Academy Exhibition of 1882. Mr. Crofts has chosen the third window from the Charing-cross end of the banqueting hall as being the one used for the temporary door on to the scaffold. This is a point often before debated but never yet settled, upon which Mr. Crofts's painting is likely again to revive discussion.

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Among the illustrations which Mr. Holman Hunt collected for his inspiriting address to the Drawing Society of Great Britain and Ireland the other day were two of special interest. One was a drawing on cardboard of a group of still life made up from the inkpot-and-ledger resources of an office, and done at the desk at which he worked as a clerk when he was twelve years old. The other was a collection of "delicate examples of the work of Sir Thomas Lawrence, executed under the age of five." In this age of picture-shows hung on any and every peg why does not some one get together a gallery to illustrate the Crayon in the Cradle? Some children in the nursery turn out the most extraordinary performances. It would be such fun, too, to hear the professional critic discoursing of the breadth, values, tone-schemes, &c., &c., in these infantile masterpieces. Precocity, however, as Mr. Hunt reminded his hearers, only flowers into genius as an exception. The enormous proportion of medallists of the R.A. never do anything afterwards to justify their early fame.

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In the third edition of the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe's "Bampton Lectures," just issued, he says: "I was informed by a friend of General Gordon, just after the death of that saintly soldier, that 'The Witness of the Psalms to Christ and Christianity' had a place among the books which he habitually read, and that a copy was among his baggage at Khartoum. Few incidents of my life have been to me more humiliating, and yet few more full of a pleasure too deep for words."

***

The extension of University teaching has been attended by remarkable results in various parts of the kingdom; but in Devon and Cornwall especially, considering the circumstances, are the fields whitest and readiest unto harvest. This success in the south-western district is mostly due to the energy of Mr. R. G. Moulton, a Cambridge man. Mr. Moulton is a brother of the Queen's counsel, who has made patents and the taxation of ground rents his special study, and of the headmaster of the Leys Wesleyan School, and is well known as a Shakspearian scholar and student of the classical drama. "Enthused," as the Americans would say, by Mr. Moulton's zeal, associations were formed in the South-West, and now a neat little journal has just been started somewhat on the lines of the *London Journal*.

Bord's Pianos.—28 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated List free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 30, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF LORD SHANNON.

ANOTHER ENGLISHMAN LOST IN CANADA.

The Hon. Henry Boyle left London on Saturday last for Canada, with the view of endeavouring to find some traces of his eldest brother, of whom nothing has been heard for over two years, and who, by the somewhat sudden death of his father, the Earl of Shannon, some months ago, has succeeded to the family titles and estates.

About seven years ago Viscount Boyle, having resigned his commission in the Rifle Brigade, left England with the view of settling in the west of Canada, and he was subsequently joined by his brother Henry, and they were engaged together for some time in ranching operations. As the speculation did not, however, prove as successful as was expected, the brothers separated, and after a short interval Mr. Henry Boyle decided some three years back to return to England in order to avail himself of an opening which had offered in the City. Before leaving Mr. Boyle wrote to his brother telling him he was going home, and asking him whether he would not accompany him. Lord Boyle decided, however, to remain in Canada, and since then, with the exception of a report received from the ambassador that he was down about two years ago near one of the mining camps, nothing has been heard of him. Last year every effort was made to find him, as, apart from the natural anxiety of his friends, Lord Boyle came into a considerable sum of money, and it became necessary to find him in order to procure his signature to some papers. It is understood that Lord Shannon, before he died, had arranged to sell a considerable portion of the estates in Ireland to the tenants under Lord Ashbourne's Act. He died, however, without signing the necessary deeds, and we believe the matter will have to stand over until it is discovered who the present owner of the estates is.

It is thought that, unless some misadventure has happened to Lord Boyle, he has probably left Canada, as, from the fact that at one time he was a member of the Canadian Parliament, his appearance was so well known both in the east and the west that some one would have answered the numerous advertisements which have been published in the Dominion offering a reward for authentic information.

MUSICAL MEMS.

The list of candidates for the Gresham Professorship of Music has been augmented by the addition of Mr. Frederick Niecks, Mr. W. A. Barrett, and Mr. Frederick Praeger. The others are Mr. W. H. Cummings, Mr. Rockstro, Dr. Bridge, and Mr. Armbruster. The election should rest between Mr. W. H. Cummings and Mr. Niecks, both of them excellent men for the post. Of the others, Mr. Barrett is a vicar-choral of St. Paul's Cathedral and a musical critic, Mr. Rockstro is the author of a fairly well-known book on Handel, Mr. Praeger is a sound musician, but has poor health. Dr. Bridge is the well-known organist of Westminster Abbey, and Mr. Ambruster is an extremely clever Wagnerian.

Herr Louis Honig has composed a special march entitled the "Star of Fortune" for the opening of Mr. Horace Lennard's new theatre at Richmond on Easter Monday. As a composition it is certainly not portraying "The Lass o' Richmond Hill" and other local celebrities, and is quite superior to the cheap compositions of its class.

We have received from Cambridge a few particulars of the performance of Glück's "Orfeo," in English, under the title of "Orpheus and Eurydice"—a very sympathetic setting of one of the most poetic tragedies in the whole range of classical mythology—at the Theatre Royal there next month. The dates fixed are from Tuesday, the 13th, to Saturday, the 17th, of May, and the entire performance will be under the direction of Professor Villiers Stanford.

The annual festival performance of Bach's "Passion Music," according to St. Matthew, at St. Paul's Cathedral, was held last night before an enormous congregation. Dr. Martin's reappearance as conductor after his severe illness was a welcome sign of his complete restoration to health. One of the best features, entirely inartistic as it is, of these performances is the singing of certain soprano solos by a small choir of picked boys—a device which is a good one so long as boys cannot be trusted, through youthful nervousness, to sing solos entirely in time.

Mdme. Nordica will return to England, after playing a successful part in the Abbey-Grau American operatic tour, on May 1.

The usual Good Friday programmes of sacred music are provided again this year. The Royal Choral Society give their oft-repeated performance of the "Messiah," and will probably repeat their annual triumph. Mr. Ambrose Austin will return to the St. James's Hall "for one occasion only," in the evening, and the Hoope and Burgess Minstrels will put off their sable livery, and sing sacred melodies, in accordance with yearly custom.

THE SALVATION ARMY SLUM AND SHELTER WORK.

A characteristic gathering assembled last night in Exeter Hall to celebrate the anniversary of the beginning of the work in the slums by the workers who devote their lives to the rescue and help of the poor denizens of the haunts of vice and crime. To the right and left of the crowded platform were models of the "Drunken Slummer's Home" "as it was" and "as it is"—the former a characteristic representation of a squalid and miserable interior; the latter showing a bright and cheerful home such as is now enjoyed by many of the reclaimed slummers. General Booth was in the chair, and Mr. Bramwell Booth opened the meeting by a short prayer. In the course of a detailed account of the work done in the slums during the last year, the General stated that the Slummer's Home's work was one of the most glorious imaginable in its happy results—not only from a religious but from a social point of view. No fewer than 8,115 open-air meetings had been held during the past year in the very heart of the slums, 9,523 had been conducted indoors, 54,000 houses had been visited, and 120,000 degraded families prayed with. Four thousand six had been visited in one week, while 70 drunkards saved, and 2,100 souls had professed salvation. In connection with this work there were now 78 officers and 25 slum posts, an increase on the year of 18 officers and five slum posts. The total income, £2,503, left a deficit of £84. An analysis of the receipts, the General claimed, showed satisfactory evidence of the acceptance of the Army's mission amongst the degraded, since the people themselves had contributed £989. Mrs. Major Cooke, a refined, sweet-looking woman, spoke with great fervour, and several of the well-known reformed characters spoke, among them "Whitechapel Granny," "Shelter Dick," a Scotchman who had spent thirty-six years in prisons, and Jimmy Burnes, all telling of careers of crime and misery, happily ended when the Salvation Army enrolled them as members.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND MR. BURT.

Mr. Burt seems to have created a remarkably favourable impression among the foreign delegates at the last Berlin Conference. The Emperor was particularly pleased with him (writes the London correspondent of the *Liverpool Post*), and took more than one opportunity of conversing with him. As his Majesty speaks English fluently, no difficulty arose from Mr. Burt's fidelity to the English tongue as it is spoken in Northumberland. When Sir John Gorst took leave of the Emperor his Majesty referred to the pleasure he had found in making the acquaintance of the member for Morpeth.

ENGLISH JEWS AND CREMATION.

The cremation question is again interesting Jewish circles. Some time since an influential section of the Council of the United Synagogue, including Lord Rothschild, expressed themselves in favour of cremation. Indeed, one gentleman offered a considerable sum towards a certain cemetery fund provided that a crematorium were erected in the burial-ground. However, the late Dr. Adler, the Chief Rabbi, who was supported by other Jewish ecclesiastics, expressed himself as strongly opposed to the substitution of burning for burial; in fact, not a single orthodox Rabbi expressed himself in anything but a condemnatory sense. However (writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*), two cremated bodies have been interred in the cemetery of the West London Synagogue. This fact, together perhaps with the circumstance that the Chief Rabbi of France has declared that from the Jewish point of view there is nothing essentially repugnant in cremation, explains in a degree the renewed interest in the subject. The ministers of the West London congregation have abstained from any pronouncement on the question.

THE SWISS GOVERNMENT AND EMIGRATION AGENTS.

The Swiss Foreign Office has called upon the Governments of the Cantons to exercise their moral influence to counteract the machinations of Swiss-Americans who return to Switzerland, and by persuasion and highly-coloured description of an idle and remunerative life in America induce many Swiss peasants to leave their homes and emigrate. "The Swiss-Americans" says the report of the Foreign Office, "act in many cases as agents for the steamship companies, and often receive a free return ticket to America if they succeed in luring a certain number of Swiss away from house and home."—*Dalziel.*

POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION AT VIENNA.

The International Postage Stamp Exhibition, which will be opened in Vienna on April 20, promises to assume unprecedentedly large proportions, an enormous number of persons from all parts of the world having announced their intention of exhibiting. The largest number are from England, nearly all the prominent English philatelists having promised to send their collections, many of which have never before been shown in public. The projected London Postage Stamp Exhibition has consequently been postponed until May 20, so as to enable philatelists to display their collections at both exhibitions. The Vienna show will remain open until May 4.

HATCHARDS, BOOKSELLERS, 187, PICCADILLY, W.—All the New and Standard Books; discount, 3d. in the shilling. Post orders promptly executed.

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL AT WORK.

THE METROPOLITAN BUDGET.

The Council met yesterday for the last time at Guildhall, as its renovated chamber at Spring-gardens will be ready for use at its reassembling on the 22nd inst. Lord Rosebery proposed a vote of thanks to the Corporation for the hospitality that it had accorded to the Council during its first year of life; and this was agreed to with acclamation. Some business of a formal character having been transacted, the Council turned its attention to the official estimates of the receipts and expenses for the year ending 31st March, 1891, which were contained in a bulky volume of 111 foolscap pages.

LORD LINGEN'S STATEMENT.

In view of the far-reaching and complex nature of his subject, the Council gave Lord Lingen *carte blanche* as on time. For general county purposes it was proposed to raise during the ensuing financial year the sum of £1,645,492, and for special county purposes £86,629—making a total of £1,732,121. The new borrowing power recommended by the Finance Committee was £2,189,306; but of this £913,216 represented the amount required for lending to other bodies; and the net amount for the Council's own purposes would be £1,276,090. With reference to the complicated nature of the estimates, Lord Lingen pointed out that that partly arose from the nature of the territory under their control, the City being exempt from rating for certain purposes. It was proposed to levy upon the county and City together a vote of 12.5*d.* in the pound, the rate last year being 10.65*d.* The total rate for the county outside the City would be 13.25*d.* in the pound, as against 12.53*d.* last year. With reference to the general county account, it was estimated that £1,896,544 would be received, and on the special county account (from which the City is exempt) £318,993—making a total of £2,215,542. Of that sum, £1,632,121 would be derived from rates, and £583,421 from balances and other sources. The county debt (£18,256,685) showed an increase of £1,129,199 for the year. The rateable value of the county and City combined was £31,593,477. At the conclusion of his statement Lord Lingen moved that the estimates should be adopted.

SOME CANDID CRITICISM.

Mr. Campbell had placed on the agenda a four-barrelled amendment, specifying various objections to the manner in which the estimates were presented. He spoke disparagingly of the volume, which he described as "a somewhat repulsive document." His complaint was that the estimates did not properly set forth the Council's financial position, not a single liability being shown. He urged that, according to the rules of simple and honest finance, every year should bear its own burdens and meet its own liabilities, whether or not these were likely to be paid by the 31st of March. He further contended that the full statutory sum to be paid to the guardians of the poor on account of the year 1889-90, amounting to £326,809, should be a charge on the expenses of that year, and not, as proposed by the Finance Committee, only three-quarters thereof, leaving the remaining quarter to be a charge against the year 1890-91. He described the proposal as "shady finance," and hoped the Council would not sanction it. Lord Lingen, in reply, resisted the amendment, remarking that the business before them was to decide what rate would be necessary to meet the payments that would fall due in the financial year. The Council was not called upon to enter into all the accounts, retrospective and prospective. Upon being put to the vote Mr. Campbell's amendment was carried by an overwhelming majority; but it was subsequently revised in order not to disturb the estimates as presented, which were ultimately approved.

THE CHARGES OF WATER COMPANIES.

Mr. James Beal (chairman of the special committee on water supply) moved: "That the Council do introduce into Parliament during the present session a bill for the purpose of suspending the powers of the water companies to increase their charges for water consequent upon any increase that may be made in the assessment of property in the County of London by the quinquennial valuations." He asked the Council to sanction the principle that the unearned increment should no longer be absorbed by the water companies. The rateable value of London property had increased from 24 to 32 millions sterling during the last five years, and the effect of the quinquennial reassessment, which will come into force next year, would be to enable the companies to exact an increased charge for their supply. He (Mr. Beal) wanted the Government to appoint a Committee to inquire into the whole question with a view to its settlement. Sir Thomas Farrer supported the motion, pointing out that of the increased value of London property it was estimated that two millions came under the heading of unearned increment. He did not object to the companies charging for new or extended supplies; but beyond that they ought not to go. The value of large and expensive houses was decreasing, while that of smaller and cheaper houses was increasing; hence a higher charge for water supply would press heavily upon the poorer classes. At the conclusion of Sir Thomas Farrer's speech the motion was unanimously adopted amid loud cheers.

A "DISESTABLISHMENT" CONVERSAZIONE.

The approaching dissolution of the Liberation Society, consequent upon its early and perfect victory, foreshadowed by Mr. Woodall, did not trouble its members in the least last night. Amid the beautiful paintings of "British Artists" in Pall-mall a large, enthusiastic, and influential company enjoyed their annual conversazione as though they had decided that if the meeting were to be the last of its kind it should be also the best. The array of speakers was characteristic, including, as it did, Mr. Woodall (the chairman), Mr. Illingworth, Sir Walter Foster, Mr. Lloyd Morgan, and others; while many who listened were notable. The speeches were mainly of a hopeful turn, but the greatest encouragement was given by the chairman, part of whose speech has already been quoted. That there had been slow but sure advancement in the cause of Disestablishment seemed to him quite clear, and in support of his statement he quoted Mr. Osborne Morgan's remarks in the current issue of the *New Review*. Twenty-five years ago, that gentleman had said, Disestablishment was an unfamiliar word, while to-day it was on every lip. Truly, added Mr. Woodall, there had not been a single retrograde step. If the progress had been slow it was because Liberationists were anxious that the work should be well done, and that the step they agitated for should be taken with the consent even of Churchmen. But Disestablishment as a principle was now the creed of the Liberal party, and a plank in the programme to which Liberal leaders all adhered. Further encouragement, he said, might be taken from the state in which the Church found itself. Sir Walter Foster had the same encouragement to give his audience. He too thought that the question of Disestablishment was the one of the first raised when the Liberal party had been returned to power, and the time had come when it should be settled in the interest of the Church itself. Mr. Illingworth, however, doubted whether ecclesiastical questions could be properly cared for by such a mixed religious medley as the House of Commons. He also discussed Tithe Bills past and present. The one speaker who was not jubilant was Mr. Lloyd Morgan, who declared sadly that the time had now come for the portion of the Welsh question to pass from argument into action. They had waited with great patience, he said, while harassed for tithes by the clergymen with empty churches, and they could wait no longer.

THE WATKIN TOWER.

Eighty-seven designs have been received by the promoters of the Watkin Tower in competition for the prizes offered. The Continent of Europe, the United States, and the Colonies are all represented in the competition. Correspondence is now going forward with one of the principal City Companies with the object of securing their hall for the public exhibition of the designs.

***

Yesterday General Sir Drury Lowe, the newly-appointed Inspector-General of Cavalry on the Headquarters Staff, took over the duties of his post.

The Middelburg Tribunal yesterday sentenced the two English pickpockets, Hoare to one year, and Phillips to three and a-half years' imprisonment.

Mr. Henry James has (says the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*) nearly completed a new three-volume novel, which will shortly appear.

Hugh Collender, who was born in Ireland in 1829, and is the best-known manufacturer of billiard-tables in the world, died at New York yesterday.—*Dalziel.*

Lord Randolph Churchill has abandoned for the present his visit to the Earl of Dunraven in Ireland, and is going to Newmarket at the end of the week.

Mr. J. Williams Benn, who represents East Finsbury in the County Council and is the efficient and popular whip of the Progressive party, will probably contest the parliamentary division of Central Hackney against Sir W. Guyer Hunter.

Germany has accepted the invitation of the Foreign Office to the International Fishery Conference to be held here in June. It will be chiefly engaged with deep-sea fishing, especially the measures necessary to prevent the wholesale catching of immature fish.

Mr. D'Oyly Carte (says a Dalziel cablegram) has discovered that there is no money to be made with "The Gondoliers" in New York, and at the end of the week the opera will be withdrawn at Daly's Theatre. Mr. Carte states that he may possibly build a theatre in New York.

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A BATCH OF AUTOGRAPH LETTERS.

It is scarcely more than a week ago that Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge dispersed one of the finest collections of autographs that have come under the auctioneer's hammer in recent years. Another collection, smaller than that made by Mr. Abraham Hayward, but almost equally interesting, will be sold by them on the 21st of May. It includes autograph letters from Addison, Browning, Mrs. Browning, Burns, Byron, Carlyle, Coleridge, Darwin, Dickens, Gray, Johnson, Keats, Lamb, Pope, Ruskin, Scott, Tennyson, Swinburne, and Thackeray. Some of these letters have already found their way into the papers—among them being one from Charles Dawson on allotments, and a couple of interesting letters sent by Lord Tennyson to two of his publishers, Moxon and Strahan. A column of interesting extracts from other letters is appended.

JOSEPH ADDISON.

The following note from Addison to Hughes, a member of the "little senate" which met nightly at Button's coffee-house, will be read with interest by the literary student. The play referred to is, of course, "Cato"; and a memorandum on the back states that "these verses, with several others, were, however, prefixed to all the subsequent editions." Here is Addison's letter, which is dated April 24, 1713 :—

I must deprive my play of the noble Ornament you designed for it. My Friends, who all of them concur with me in admiring your beautiful Copy of Verses, are, however, of opinion that it will draw upon me an Imputation of Vanity, and as my play has met with an unexpected Reception, I must take particular care not to aggravate y^e Envy and Illnature that will rise on course upon me. Besides, to tell you truly, I have received other poems upon the same occasion, and one or two from persons of Quality, who will never pardon me if I do not give them a place at the same time that I give any other.

THE BROWNINGS.

The collection includes two letters from Robert Browning to Dante Gabriel Rossetti, one of which runs as follows :—

Rue du Colidin, 3, May 29, '56.

My dear Rossetti,—May this note introduce to you a friend of mine, Mr. Cartwright? . . . It is shame about the portrait, I honestly believe, for *it* a formidable lot of portraits this year? Never mind, *you*, however, who have done your utmost & all possible to be done. My conviction, after the wrong to the work of art, is about the possible annoyance Page may feel—not much, but too much, if any at all. They have bought his last work, "Venus," for £500—they, *i.e.*, American compatriots & good fellows. Such a pleasant note from Allingham! for which I owe you thanks, it is plain. I remember you asked me some question of which one comes to mind of a sudden—"chuesos" is dog-latin rather—the true word would be "eluceo".—S. Uplain, the golden Jurist, is a copper latinist—see about him in any Biographical Dictionary. "*Aurea* you annuser'd ?" as energetic Shylock used to say in my time at the Surrey.

"Elucesco" probably refers to a line in "The Bishop Orders his Tomb at St. Praxed's Church" ("Men and Women") :—

Aha, *elucescebat* quoth our friend?
No Tully—said I—Ulpian at the best!

The following letter from Mrs. Browning (then "Elizabeth H. Barrett") to Horne is interesting. It is dated March 10th, 1841 :—

I have a little spaniel called Flush, the descendant of Miss Mitford's spaniel, Flush the Famous, which she sent me for company, & beside to remind me of her. He is spoilt of course—it couldn't be helped under the circumstances—for, in addition to the association, he gave me most ready affection, notwithstanding all my dulness as a playmate—& it was only natural that I should murmur when my maid told me she had been obliged to whip him for a misdemeanour. His sin, at its first aspect, looked a heavy one. He had torn up into fragments, like a critic, a volume of Lamartine's poems—into fragments an inch square. "Oh, but," I said, "how could he know any better?" There's an apology for the critics! "He should be taught," she replied, "or he'll tear up all the books in the house. He'll tear them all to pieces if he's not whipped." Think of that! Did the critics do you much harm formerly, dear Mr. Horne, when you went for sympathy to Echo? or was it a mere pestilent silence? But you may whip *them* for ever without making them better—I lose my moral so.

CHARLES DICKENS.

Dickens, like all successful authors, was pestered by literary aspirants anxious to find out "how the thing is done." Here is a sensible reply to one of these young gentlemen. Though the letter was written forty-six years ago, the advice still holds good :—

I fear the best reply I can give you, in acknowledging the receipt of your letter, will be rather unsatisfactory; but if it be so, it is not from any lack of interest on my part. It is in the nature of all literary beginnings to be surrounded by unsatisfactory circumstances. The rate of remuneration to unknown writers is six or eight guineas a sheet, usually. Many unknown writers write for nothing. I wrote for the next thing to it myself, when I was one-and-twenty. The only additional piece of advice I can give you is to concentrate on this pursuit all the patience that would be required in all the other pursuits of life would put together, & to lay your account with having it tried. In another letter Dickens leaves it to a correspondent's common sense "to consider the possibility of slavery existing without oppression and tyranny."

DANTE GABRIEL ROSSETTI.

The following letter from Rossetti to Mr. Swinburne was written from Chelsea in September, 1864 :—

My dear Swinburne, Mac has spoken. Don't swear more than you can help. I have your MSS. safe again. There was a sort of talk of my looking up & putting together those again; but this must be a post-obit affection in reference to sending them him again. He seems half inclined to the Chastelard still. But I since doubted whether such selection would meet your wishes. I mentioned the St. Dorothy as an objectionable poem, but Mac had some funky reminiscences of the allusion to Venus, so really it seemed a bad look out. I have no news in particular. Am getting on more or less with the Venus, but nothing else since finishing "King René." I shall have to go to Llandaff in a day or so I suppose.

MR. RUSKIN.

The "precious little book" referred to in the following note from Mr. Ruskin is Mr. R. H. Shepherd's edition of Blake's poems published by Pickering in 1874. The MS. was not written until 8th May, 1876 :—

Putting my books in order after a long interval I find to-day your gift of Aug. 6th 1874, never before seen by me. It came when I was in Italy, and I have never got my books sifted since! I am very sorry, for I would fain have thanked you at once for the precious little book, of which you must have thought me so careless. But, as I now glance through it, I am a little puzzled. I suppose it is truth of feeling that is meant, but I never believe not satisfactory after Rossetti's emendations. You do not, I think, make clear enough in your preface the authority for your readings. In the tiger, for instance, Rossetti's "What dread hand made thy dread feet?" is far more striking (to me) than your "What dread hand and what, &c.," which is forced and unintelligible.

MR. SWINBURNE.

"Every man has his price" is a saying attributed to Sir Robert Walpole; and it would seem that every poet of sufficient fame has his price also. Mr. Swinburne's lowest figure used to be £10, as the following note to a magazine editor will show. The date, it should be added, is December 20, 1871.

I have received your note, in answer to my reply of the 1st, asking for "not more than sixteen lines." I fear I can hardly undertake to supply verse to order in point of length or otherwise: in any case I should certainly not think it worth while to let a magazine have the first fruits of anything of mine for less than £10.

THACKERAY.

This string of extracts may be fitly brought to a close by the following interesting letter from Thackeray to the editor of *Fraser's Magazine*.

13, Gr. Coram-street, April 8, 1843.

My dear Nickleson,—I was at no loss in reading the amusing "Illustrations of Lisbon," in the Magazine, to discover the name of the author. Mr. Deady Keane shows me by the hand only a fortnight since, and at the very same time, no doubt, was writing the libel on me which appeared, to my no small surprise, in that very article.

I have advisedly let a week pass without deciding upon the course I ought to pursue. Few people (none that I have seen) know that the attack in question is levelled at myself, but those have I any desire to make the public acquainted with that fact. But, as in a private house or an inn, if any person with no other provocation but that of drunkenness or natural malice should take a fancy to call me by foul names, I should have a right to appeal to the host, and request him to have the individual so offending turned out of doors—I may similarly complain to you that I have been grossly insulted in your Magazine.

Having written long in it; being known to you (please God) as an honest man and not an ungenerous one; I have a right to complain that a shameful and an unprovoked attack has been made upon me in the Magazine, and an act of justice to demand that the writer should no longer be permitted to contribute to *Fraser*.

If Mr. Deady Keane continues his contributions in any shape, mine must cease. I am one of the oldest, and I believe one of the best, of your contributors. A private individual, I have been grossly abused in the Magazine, and must perforce withdraw from it unless I have your word that this act of justice shall be done me.

I make this demand not in the least as an act of retaliation against Mr. Keane, but as an act of justice which I owe to myself, and which is forced on me. At the present at least it cannot be said that anger or the love of revenge, or that his attack has rendered me particularly vindictive. It would be easy to fight him with his same weapons which he uses, could I descend to employ them; but I feel myself, and I hope one day he will discover, that they are unworthy of an honest man. If he only take care to let it be publicly known, and that it is his intention to abuse in the public prints any private individuals whose personal appearance or qualities may be disagreeable to him, it is surprising how popular he will become, how his society will be courted, and his interests in life advanced.

But I am sure you will no longer allow him to exercise his office of satirist in your Magazine, and hope (without the least wish to imply a threat) that for both our sakes he will make no more attacks in print upon my person or my private character.—Faithfully yours, dear Nickleson, W. M. THACKERAY.

I have no copy of this letter, but should you send it to Mr. Keane will you please make one?

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PROPOSED NATIONAL MONUMENT TO BISMARCK

The proposal having been made in various quarters that a national monument should be erected to Prince Bismarck in Berlin, a number of influential men of all shades of political opinion met there yesterday to take preliminary steps for issuing an appeal to the public for contributions to a fund to be raised for defraying the cost of the proposed monument. The memorial committee intends inviting the Emperor to give his patronage to the scheme. Herr von Levetzow has consented to act as chairman of the committee.—*Reuter.*

THE KAISER AND FRANCE.

An Exchange telegram from Paris states that the *Paix* publishes a long despatch from Berlin which is attracting great attention. It sets forth that the Emperor William is seriously desirous of improving the relations now existing between Germany and France, and with that object he will lay before the French Government the basis of a peaceful compromise.

RETIREMENT OF MR. FRITH, R.A.

The Royal Academician whom the *Daily Chronicle* mentioned yesterday as having written to the authorities of the Academy resigning his position and praying to be placed upon the retired list, is, we learn Mr. Frith.

A DEGREE FOR LORD STANLEY OF PRESTON.

McGill University, Montreal, has conferred an honorary degree on the Governor-General, Lord Stanley of Preston.—*Dalziel.*

LORD COMPTON AND THE TELEGRAPHISTS.

The following is the resolution which Lord Compton will move on Tuesday, the 15th, with reference to the telegraphists :—"That, in the opinion of this House, the present position of telegraphists in London and elsewhere is unsatisfactory, and their just grievances require redress."

DEATH OF GENERAL W. C. MENZIES.

General William collier Menzies, late of the Royal Engineers, died at St. Helier's, Jersey, on Monday, at the age of seventy-two years. The deceased officer was a son of the late General Sir Charles Menzies, K.C.B.

THE FIRST LADY DOCTOR IN AUSTRALIA.

Australian mail news yesterday stated that Miss E. Constance Stone, who was assistant physician at the New Hospital for Women in London, has just been registered by the Melbourne Medical Board as a medical practitioner, being the first Australian lady doctor who has been granted registration in the Australian colonies.

FRIGHTFUL FALL FROM A TELEPHONE POLE.

In Dublin on Monday afternoon while Wm. Nolan was engaged in fastening a telephone wire to a pole in Fleet-street the wire broke and he fell to the ground, a distance of about 40ft. He was picked up dead.

THE KAISER TO MEET THE TZAR.

The *Kölnische Zeitung* yesterday announced from St. Petersburg that a meeting of the German and Russian Emperors in the coming summer has now been definitely arranged. It has been finally settled that the Emperor William will be present at the Russian manœuvres at Krasnoje Selo.—*Reuter.*

WHERE AN EXTRADITION LAW FELL SHORT.

A Dalziel's telegram from New York says :—Edmund Mark Lester, the celebrated criminal lawyer of the Austrian bar, who recently fled to this country with 600,000 fl. belonging to his clients, has just been released by the United States authorities. Great efforts were made to obtain Lester's extradition, he having been arrested in accordance with cabled instructions directly he landed. Detectives and lawyers were sent by the Austrian Government to give evidence and to argue the case, but it has been decided that the charges against Lester do not come within the terms of the extradition treaty between the two countries, and so the embezzling lawyer goes his way unmolested.

ALLEGED MURDER BY A MUTE.

A deaf mute named Samuel John McClure is in custody at Greyhill, county Armagh, charged with having attacked his father, a wealthy farmer, and inflicted such injuries as to cause his death.

THE IMPROPER BOOKS AND PICTURES PROSECUTION.

At the London Sessions at Clerkenwell yesterday, Thomas Thompson and George Bridger surrendered to their bail to answer an indictment charging them with unlawfully uttering and publishing certain indecent books and pictures. Mr. Forrest Fulton and Mr. McCarthy prosecuted. Mr. Charles Mathews defended. Mr. Fulton said the prosecution was instituted by the National Vigilance Society, whose agent—Mr. Ashley—had purchased certain objectionable books and pictures from Bridger, who gave his address as 14, Sinclair-road. Some of the goods appeared to have been taken to the shop of Mr. Vicedlly, in Gower-street, and others were left there in a bag by Thompson, who was employed there, and others were sold in a public house. The Japanese pictures were alleged to be of a peculiarly objectionable nature. Mr. Fulton was opening the case when Mr. Mathews stated that upon a consultation with his clients they would withdraw their plea and now plead guilty. Mr. Fulton remarked that no copies of the books had been found in possession of either of the prisoners. After a consultation with counsel it was agreed to postpone sentence until the adjourned April sessions. In the meantime, it was understood the solicitors for the prisoners would communicate with Inspector Conquest, who has charge of the case, any information they might feel inclined to give with regard to the publication of the libels.

A BROOKLYN BRIDGE CABLE SNAPS.

One of the cables of Brooklyn Suspension Bridge suddenly snapped yesterday evening just as the greatest rush of homeward working people was taking place. The police at once stopped the traffic, and a crowd four hours before a second cable was placed in position. Meanwhile, some thousands of people were waiting supperless, the snow falling heavily all the time, apparently unwilling to cross the river by the ferry. No disorder took place. When the order was given that the bridge was ready, the crowd rushed across with loud cheering.—*Dalziel.*

THE DEFENCE OF THE SOLENT.

Preparations are being made at the west end of the Isle of Wight for the combined military and naval operations which are to take place in June next in the vicinity of the Needles. The operations are to be held with the view of testing the possibility of the Needles passage being forced by a fleet. About 4,000 troops under the command of General the Hon. Sir Leicester Smyth will be engaged, whilst the fleet employed will be commanded by Admiral Sir E. Commerell, V.C.

THE MORFA COLLIERY DISASTER.—INQUEST.

The inquest touching this disaster was resumed at Aberavon yesterday. Mr. Jeffreys appeared for the Home Office; Messrs. Tennant and Jones, Aberavon, for Vivian and Sons; Mr. S. T. Evans, M.P., for the Miners' Association for South Wales. Messrs. Rotson and Martin, chief inspectors, and Messrs. Randall and F. A. Gray, deputy-inspectors of mines, were present, as were also Sir Hussey Vivian and Mr. Aubrey Vivian. The coroner said the duty of the jury would be to find a verdict in accordance with the evidence.

GUARDIANS WAYLAID AND ASSAULTED.

An extraordinary outrage was investigated at Tralee yesterday. Several men who were unsuccessful in an election at the board of guardians waylaid the chairman, Mr. Murphy, and Mr. Garret Fitzgerald, another guardian on their way home. A fierce attack was made on both gentlemen, who took refuge in an outhouse and defended themselves with a pitchfork. Two of the accused were sentenced to one month and a third to fourteen days' imprisonment.

A SOLICITOR STRUCK OFF THE ROLLS.

In the Queen's Bench yesterday, the name of James Edward Sutherland, a solicitor lately practising at Woolwich, was, on the application of the Incorporated Law Society, ordered to be struck off the roll of solicitors. It was stated that Sutherland was in January last convicted of converting the cheque of a client to his own purposes, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

The governors of the London Hospital yesterday authorized the expenditure of £7,000 on sanitary improvements.

Yesterday Mr. Justice Butt dismissed with costs an application to attach Baron Henry de Lossy for disobedience of an order to pay the petitioner, his wife, £200 a year for permanent alimony. His lordship doubted whether he had power to do as he was asked.

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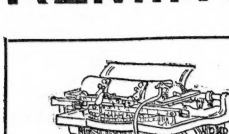

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PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of purchasing the valuable India-Rubber Concession granted by the Government of the Republic of Liberia, West Coast of Africa, for the sole right of collecting the India-rubber grown on all the Government lands and forests, and the sole right of exporting all India-rubber grown within the territories of the Republic of Liberia, such Concession further granting the Concessionaires 2,000 acres of land, to be selected by them for the purpose of erecting warehouses, stores, residences, and establishing depots, wharves, and trading stations, or for such other purposes in connection with the Concession as the Concessionaires may from time to time deem necessary or desirable, and to be held free of any charge whatever; and it hereafter should be desirable to work such Concession, or to sell or lease the whole or portions thereof to companies or individuals; and also to take over, work, sell, or lease to companies or individuals, at the discretion of the Directors, any other Concession or Concessions which may now or hereafter be obtained by the Company from the Government of the Liberian Republic.

The rubber concession covers the whole area of the Government lands on which the gum elastic rubber vine is found, producing rubber of the best West African quality; and the Government estimate that a minimum of 2,000 tons can be collected annually (and also the sole right of exporting all other rubber grown within the territories of the Republic of Liberia), which, delivered in London or Liverpool, including the royalty to be paid to the Government of Liberia, will, it is estimated, show a profit (if only realising 1s. per lb.) of £112,000 per annum. Labour is cheap and plentiful, and the natives of this part of Africa are industrious.

The use of rubber is being very largely extended, and is being brought into operation for many manufacturing purposes, and is now being extensively used in Berlin, Hanover, and Hamburg, in connection with other materials, for paving the streets, and no doubt will soon be applicable for many other similar purposes.

The area of the Republic is estimated to be about 150,000 square miles, or about 96,000,000 acres, many of which is of the richest character, yielding almost every known kind of tropical produce, whilst the value of its mineral wealth can scarcely be estimated.

The resources of Liberia (which are comparatively undeveloped), together with its natural advantages, are anticipated to afford a very profitable field for the employment of British capital; its position being such as to fit it the key of many of the principal trading routes to and from the interior of Africa, and it may be said to have the monopoly of the ivory trade in that region, which of itself should prove a source of great wealth to the Company.

The following Concessions, which the Consul-General and Messrs. Ponsonby and Lamb have declared to be duly executed, have been applied for, and the Council of Directors has assured the Liberian Government have undertaken not to grant any Concessions without first offering them to the vendor or his nominee:

A concession to work and get minerals. This, if obtained, will be one which it is almost impossible to overvalue, as it is believed and known that the West Coast of Africa abounds in mineral wealth of every description, especially gold, and the native has exported thousands of pounds' worth of gold dust during the three days' stay of the mail steamer, which, if only believed to exist in larger quantities, would also be followed by exist in larger quantities. The Consul-General in Liberia is of the very highest authority on the subject of gold and metallic iron, according to the samples assayed, which, in his opinion, are of great value to the country.

A concession to grow, cultivate, and gather all kinds of fibre-producing plants, including cotton, jute, flax, hemp, and other like materials, and to cocoa, coffee, cocoa-nuts, bananas, plums, oranges, spices, and all other tropical and sub-tropical fruits to the limits of the Republic. The coffee grown in Liberia is known to be the finest in the world.

A concession for the right to cut down, by barter or otherwise, and to collect palm and other vegetable oils and timber of every kind, over all the forest districts not in private occupation.

A concession for the right to sell the Government lands of the Republic not in private occupation, or collecting indigo, or selling, cutting, using, and exporting all kinds of timber and dye woods, of the best known species of the latter are grown in great abundance.

A concession for the right to collect on the Government lands in any private occupation, or acquire by purchase, barter, or otherwise, all kinds of hides, skins, ivory, horn, and such like material, and of selling and exporting the same.

A concession for the sole and exclusive right to establish a State Bank, under charter from the Government, with the privilege of issuing paper currency. The conversion of cocoa and other gum lines, ship-canals, and other public works, and generally all such as may be found desirable.

The Republic of Liberia has long been the British Settlements on the West Coast of Africa, and is bounded on the north side by Sierra Leone, and on the south by Cape Coast Castle. It is in direct communication by steam with the principal British and Continental ports, and the Bay of Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, affords good anchorage, and is capable of accommodating vessels of large draught, and is several days nearer Liverpool and London than the West Indies.

The English language is the language of the State, and the Government of Liberia has been modelled on that of the United States of America, and is recognised by all the Great Powers, being included in the Treaty of Berlin; therefore offering a good guarantee of ample protection to traders, on the coast or in the interior.

The price to be paid to the Vendor for the India-Rubber Concession, and in respect of his interest in the other concessions which have been applied for, has been fixed with the Vendor at £70,000, payable as to £7,000 in cash and as to £25,000 in fully-paid ordinary shares, £5,000 in deferred shares, and the balance in cash or fully-paid ordinary shares, or partly in cash and partly in shares, at the option of the directors; the deferred shares ranking only for dividend after the Company has earned sufficient to pay a dividend on the ordinary paid-up capital of 25 per cent., when the deferred shareholders, after receiving a dividend of 25 per cent., will be entitled to one-half of the balance of the remaining profits.

The vendor, who is the promoter, will provide all the preliminary expenses of floating the Company, the issue and subscription of its capital, and the remuneration of brokers.

The following concession has been granted and agreement entered into:—

A concession, dated January 21, 1890, granted to Ellis Parr and others by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia, for the sole right of collecting the India-rubber grown on the Government lands and forests, and the sole right of exporting all India-rubber grown within the territories of the Republic of Liberia, subject to the payment of the royalties and bonus therein mentioned; with conversion further securing the concessionaires a grant of 2,000 acres of land, to be selected by them for the purpose of erecting warehouses, stores, residences, and establishing depots, wharves, and trading stations, or for other purposes, in connection with the concession, as the concessionaires may from time to time deem necessary or desirable, and held free of any charge whatever.

A deed of assignment, dated the 16th day of March, 1890, between Ellis Parr of the one part, and the Company of the other part.

The above Concession and Agreement, and a copy of the Act relating to the Concession, as passed by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia, dated January 21st, 1890, together with an Ordnance Map of the country, and the Memorandum and Articles of Association, may be seen at the Offices of the Company.

In addition to the above, the vendor has entered into others as to the expenses of the formation of the Company, and as to the mode of placing of the capital; also contracts with his agents relative to the acquisition of the concessions, which, if they should not be carried out, events may technically be contrary within the meaning of Section 38 of the Companies Act, 1867, applicants for shares shall be deemed to have notice thereof, and to have waived all rights to have any particulars of the same disclosed to them, whether under Section 38 of the Companies Act, or otherwise.

Application should be made on the form accompanying the Prospectus, and, when posted, with a remittance of 2s. 6d. per share, to the Bankers or Secretary of the Company.

Where no allotment is made, the money paid on application will be returned in full, and where a less number of shares are allotted than the number applied for, the balance of the application money will be credited towards the amount due on allotment.

An early application will be made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange for a settlement.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be had or obtained from the Bankers, Solicitors, Auditors, or the Secretary to the Company.

29th March, 1890.

Since the Prospectus was approved by the Directors, various samples of Liberian Rubber have been submitted to leading brokers in the rubber trade in this country, who have offered to take any quantity that can be produced at sums varying from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 3d. per lb. It will be seen that the basis of profit was estimated upon a realisation of only one shilling per lb.

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IMPERIAL RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT CONVERSION LOAN.
CONVERSION AND REDEMPTION of the RUSSIAN FIVE PER CENT. LOAN OF 1862 FOR £15,000,000, by means of an issue of £11,365,000 4 per Cent. Bonds, and Payment in Cash of £3,350,000, in conformity with the Ukase of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, dated the 9-21 March, 1890.

Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD and SONS are authorized to receive Bonds of the Five per Cent. Loan of 1862 for conversion into the new Four per Cent. Bonds.

Applications for conversion will be received until Thursday, April 3, inclusive.

In the conversion, for every £100 nominal Capital of the Five per Cent. Loan, the holder will be entitled, on April 30, to a nominal Capital of the Four per Cent. Loan, and a payment in cash of £25.

Holders converting their 5 per cents. Bonds will detach the Coupon due the 1st May, 1890, and as the conversion takes effect from the 1st May, and Interest will not commence on the new Bonds until the 1st June, one month's Interest on the new Bonds is added to the cash payment mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The Coupons for the first three months' Interest on the new Bonds will be payable on the 1st September next.

The 4 per cent. Bonds, both Principal and Interest, will be free from all Russian taxes.

The Loan will be divided into Bonds of £10 10s. 6d., £52 12s. 6d., and £262 5s. 6d., with Coupons payable respectively on the 1st March, 1st June, 1st September, and 1st December, in Russian, at the choice of the holders, at St. Petersburg and Moscow, and in Paris, Berlin, Frankfort-on-Maine, Amsterdam, Brussels, New York, and St. Petersburg at the rate of Francs 25·20, Marks 20·40, Florins 10·50 or Roubles 8·04 to Dutch florins 4·20 = U.S. Dollars 1·68 = Pounds Sterling 1·05.

An accumulative Sinking Fund will reimburse all these Bonds at par in 56 years, by half-yearly drawings on the 1st March and 1st June, and repayment will be made three months later at the places in front of the Coupons. The first drawing will take place on the 1st March, 1891. The Government reserve to themselves the right to fund before the 1st January, 1900.

Applications must be accompanied by a deposit of £5 per cent. in cash or Coupons of the Loan to be converted. Bonds, before subscription, to be split up all the Coupons were unpaid. The whole of the Bonds furnished with the talons and all Coupons subsequent to the 1st May, 1890, not to be detached before which can be effected on application, and deposited not later than the 30th April next. The Letters to deliver on the 1st June after which required will render the Deposit on Application liable to forfeiture.

Subscriptions are also opened in Paris, Berlin, Frankfort-a/M., Amsterdam, Brussels, Antwerp, St. Petersburg, &c.

All Bonds of the 5 per Cent. Loan of 1862 not presented for conversion will be paid off in cash on the 1st July, 1890, and will be repayable in cash at par, with accrued interest, on and after.

New Court, 26th March, 1890.

SPECIAL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS.

3 LINES..... 1/-
3 INSERTIONS..... 2/6
Beyond 3 Lines, 4d. per Line per Insertion.
NOTE.—Each line averages about Seven words.

EDUCATIONAL.

EXTEMPORE SPEAKING (Oratory).—Prof. Gouens, M.A. (Member of the University Senate), continues his INSTRUCTION in Oratory in the expression of ideas and fluent delivery.—28, Oxford-Mansion, Regent-street, W.

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EASTER HOLIDAYS.—BOARDERS received, or apartments, large double room, Seaside and fishing district. Terms.—Miss Gamble, Hill, Trouts, North Walsham, Norfolk.

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TO LET.—Houses, Villas, Mansions, Chambers (business and residential), Apartments (furnished or unfurnished), thoroughly established with all modern conveniences, but rarely, if ever, met with elsewhere, combined with many quite unit for habitation to overcome all the difficulties in which they have been left by the previous tenants, the confined dirt and odours arising therefrom proving a powerful source of diagnosis and sometimes death to their successors. To remedy this, Hudson's Soap is unrivalled for purifying agent. Hudson's unfailingly and cleanly world over for all washing, scouring, and cleaning purposes. Sold in a pure, Dry Soap, in four powder, and dissolves immediately in hot or cold water, and is the only Soap that can be used where only Soap is objectionable, such as washing chintz, linens will be thoroughly cleansed, as it makes the plates, knives, forks, saucepans, &c., as clean as a sapphire direct from the cut to the palace of the regular daily use of Hudson's remove all stains and tarnish. In 1d., 2d., 3d., and 7d. packets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STAMPS! STAMPS!!—PALMER'S BAZAAR. See Brighton Ld. Buy, sell, or exchange with Palmer, who has established a name for fair to stop forged stamps. Cheapest house pass in list to collectors. Original prices given The best price given for collections. Commissions on stamps gratis. 500 stamps, all different, 5s. Stamps sent on approval.—J. W. Palmer, 29, Strand, London. No duty address.

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Printed and Published by Thomas Hunt, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—Wednesday, April 2, 1890.